

|  |
| --- |
| Information Sharing Schemes and the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework (MARAM) |
| Acronyms Glossary   |  |  | | --- | --- | | AFVP | **Adolescent Family Violence Program** provides family-based case management to young people using violence in the family to reduce violence and increase the safety of family members. The program is targeted at young people aged 12 to 17 years and their families. It is funded by the Victorian Government in three areas (Ballarat, Barwon and the Mornington Peninsula). | | CALD | **Culturally And Linguistically Diverse**, is used to reflect the diversity of the Victorian population that has resulted from migration. The Victorian Government is committed to delivering services that meet the diverse needs of people from multicultural communities, including people with refugee or asylum-seeking backgrounds. | | CASAs | **Centres Against Sexual Assault (CASAs)**. There are 15 CASAs across Victoria. CASAs offer free, confidential 24-hour emergency or crisis care for victim-survivors of sexual assault. This includes crisis counselling support and access to medical care and legal services, as well as counselling support for adults who were abused in their childhood. The Victorian Sexual Assault Crisis Line provides the after-hours service. All CASAs have access to at least one Crisis Care Unit, which may be located in a multidisciplinary centre, hospital or a community-based agency. | | Child FIRST | **Child and Family Information Referral and Support Teams** (Child FIRST) provide a central referral point to a range of community-based family services within subregional catchments. Child FIRST organisations have statutory obligations under the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 (Vic). | | CIP | **Central Information Point** provides timely information to support effective risk assessment and management of perpetrators of family violence. Enabled by the Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme, it brings together representatives from Court Services Victoria, Victoria Police, Corrections Victoria and the former Department of Health and Human Services to consolidate critical information about perpetrators of family violence into a single report. Reports can currently be requested by The Orange Door network and some Risk Assessment and Management Panels. | | CISS | **Child Information Sharing Scheme**, established in legislation, the scheme provides for sharing of information among authorised organisations to support child wellbeing or safety, including within (but not limited to) family violence contexts. | | CWSA | The **Child Wellbeing and Safety Act** 2005 (Vic) outlines ‘principles for children’ to guide the development and provision of services for children. These include an expectation that service providers ‘acknowledge and be respectful of the child’s individual identity, circumstances and cultural identity and be responsive to the particular needs of the child’. | | CYFA | The **Children, Youth and Families Act** 2005 (Vic) guides the actions of community services and the state in the best interests of vulnerable children. | | FOI Act | **Freedom of Information** Act 1982 | | FSV | **Family Safety Victoria**, an administration office of the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (comprising some portfolio responsibilities of the former Department of Health and Human Services) with dedicated responsibility for delivering key elements of the family violence reform. This includes the Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme, The Orange Door network and the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management reforms. | | FVIO | **Family Violence Intervention Order**, a court-issued order to protect people from further family violence | | FVISS | **Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme**, established in legislation, the scheme enables sharing of information between authorised organisations to support the assessment and management of family violence risk | | FVIU | **Family Violence Investigation Units**, established in each police division, the 31 units investigate serious family violence matters and support general duties police and other specialist units on appropriate risk management interventions to increase safety for adult and child victims. | | FVPA | **The Family Violence Protection Act** 2008, | | FVPP | **Family Violence Principal Practitioner**, positions established in the former Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education and Training and the Department of Justice and Community Safety to develop family violence practice and knowledge and provide leadership across their departments. The positions support implementation of key initiatives such as the Information Sharing Scheme and the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework. | | FVRIC | **Family Violence Reform Interdepartmental Committee**, the committee responsible for leading cross-government engagement and providing oversight and governance for the implementation and delivery of family violence reform. Representatives include the reform’s key implementing agencies. | | ISE | **Information Sharing Entity**, as defined by the Family Violence Protection Act to be a person or body prescribed, or a class of person or body prescribed, to be an information sharing entity. | | LGBTIQ | An inclusive initialism that refers to **lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer** people. | | MARAM | The Family Violence **Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management** Framework, the redeveloped Common Risk Assessment Framework or “CRAF”. The MARAM Framework is supported by operational practice guidance and risk identification, screening and assessment tools. | | RAE | **Risk Assessment Entity** is an information sharing entity prescribed to be a risk assessment entity. Risk assessment entities can request and receive voluntary disclosures from information sharing entities for a family violence assessment purpose. | | SFVA | **Specialist Family Violence Advisors**, established in each of the 17 Department of Health (formerly Department of Health and Human Services) areas, these roles are intended to increase access to specialist family violence skills as well as supporting the development of local capability and resources across mental health, alcohol and other drug and family violence services across Victoria. | | SFVC | **Specialist Family Violence Courts**, specialist courts that provide enhanced safety features including separate entrances for victim survivors and remote hearing facilities. Specialist Family Violence Courts are staffed by specially trained magistrates and court staff, partner agencies and other court-based services to deliver a coordinated response. Magistrates at Specialist Family Violence Courts have powers to mandate counselling orders for perpetrators. | | The Hubs | **Support and Safety Hubs**, A network of local access points across Victoria recommended by the Royal Commission into Family Violence to better support victim survivors in accessing services. The public branding of the Support and Safety Hubs is The Orange Door | | VSAC | **Victim Survivors’ Advisory Council**, formed in July 2016, the council was established to include people with lived experience of family violence in the service design of the family violence reform. | |

# Further information

For further information about training and resources available to support health workforces implement these reforms, please email: [infosharing@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:infosharing@health.vic.gov.au)

Resources to assist organisations and workers implement MARAM and upskill in family violence knowledge and practice are available on the [Vic Gov MARAM website](https://www.vic.gov.au/maram-practice-guides-and-resources) <https://www.vic.gov.au/maram-practice-guides-and-resources>.

An Organisational Embedding guide and supporting resources are available on the [VicGov website](https://www.vic.gov.au/maram-practice-guides-and-resources) <<https://www.vic.gov.au/maram-practice-guides-and-resources>> under Organisational focussed resources.

[Ministerial Guidelines](https://www.vic.gov.au/guides-templates-tools-for-information-sharing) have been developed on both information sharing schemes to provide direction to ISEs on how to apply Part 5A in sharing information with other ISEs in relation to assessing or managing risk of family violence and includes guidance and resources to ensure that information is shared appropriately and responsibly < <https://www.vic.gov.au/guides-templates-tools-for-information-sharing>>.

All organisations and services prescribed as ISEs can access the online ISE list. Access the list via the [VicGov website](https://iselist.www.vic.gov.au/ise/list/) <https://iselist.www.vic.gov.au/ise/list>.

Further information or enquiries contact: [infosharing@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:infosharing@health.vic.gov.au)