



Relationships are at the heart of why we exist. We help people to build positive relationships, and repair connections when needed.

We provide family and relationship services, relationship courses, pastoral services, refugee and asylum seeker support, and school and education support. All services are offered to the whole community, regardless of religious belief or background.

If you – or someone you know – needs assistance, call one of our offices listed overleaf.

## FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIP SERVICES

### Adoption and Permanent Care Program

A state-wide service providing counselling, support and outreach services to families seeking to adopt a child. We also place vulnerable children in supportive families.

Our Adoption Information Service provides information, counselling, search and outreach services to people enquiring about past adoptions.

### Alcohol and Other Drug Family Service ●

This program provides specialist counselling, support groups and community education for individuals and families who are supporting family members dealing with substance addiction.

### Counselling ●

Assists couples, families, children and individuals with long or short term counselling to manage and sustain healthy relationships. Separating couples can also access counselling to manage separation, focussing on wellbeing and children's needs. Counselling may be short or long term depending on need for support and complexity of issues.

### GodStart

Encourages faith development for pre-school children, strengthening the ties between the Parish and families.

### Family Wellbeing Support Service

This service can help your family to better deal with life's transitions and challenges.

We provide a free, flexible support service that enhances resilience, health and wellbeing for families with children up to the age of 18, including those from new and emerging communities.

### Integrated Family Services (IFS)

IFS offers in-home support to vulnerable families who are experiencing difficulties, with a focus on improving their parenting confidence and capacity. Clients attend on a voluntary basis via referral through the Child FIRST Alliance.

### Post-Separation Services

Supporting families through the separation process to minimise conflict, and better manage parenting in the best interests of the child. We offer family dispute resolution, mediation and post-separation education and support services.

## SCHOOL AND EDUCATION SUPPORT

### Clemente Fitzroy ●

In partnership with Australian Catholic University (ACU) this program creates opportunities to help people make a fresh start through university education. The program offers, at no cost, supported tertiary level education in humanities for people experiencing significant disadvantage.

### Relationships Matter!

Secondary school students learn how to develop and maintain healthy relationships with themselves, their friends, colleagues and family.

### Seasons for Growth ●

Loss, change and grief programs which aim to build resilience and promote the social and emotional wellbeing of children, young people and adults as they adapt to changes in their lives. Training is provided to professionals who wish to deliver the program.

### School Counselling

Provides specialised on-site psychological and counselling services to primary and secondary schools. Working collaboratively with parents and teachers, counselling can identify difficulties early so strategies can be tailored to enhance the student's wellbeing and overall school experience. We also offer a range of programs for teaching staff and welfare/counselling staff within schools.

### School Refusal Support

Offers early intervention and support to families and treatment to children suffering anxiety, or refusing to attend school.

## PASTORAL SERVICES

### Chaplains

Chaplains provide emotional and spiritual support to people through all stages of life.

A chaplain's work is grounded in a spirituality of respectful listening as they seek to connect, understand and sustain those they encounter.

Our chaplaincies include:

- Clergy Health and Wellbeing
- HIV/AIDS Ministry
- Hospital Chaplaincy
- Prison Ministry
- Youth Justice Chaplaincy ●

## REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

### Asylum Seeker Support ●

We help vulnerable individuals and families who are living in the community on bridging visas. We assist clients to source accommodation facilities and help them to access learning and literacy services.

### Building Community Program

The Building Community Program supports recently arrived migrants living in Pakenham to help build their confidence, skills and sense of community. The program offers a community garden, English Conversation programs and information forums for individuals and families.

### Eltham Project

The Eltham Refugee Housing and Support Project provided accommodation and settlement support to newly arrived refugees from Syria and Iraq. This project was delivered in partnership with St Vincent's Health Australia, but it has now come to an end.

### Green Patch Community Farm

Green Patch community farm trains refugee job seekers in gardening and horticulture - it builds refugee families' sense of community, skills and self-esteem. The farm is located near Melton in Melbourne's outer west. With the support of local farmers, businesses, parishes and volunteers, refugee families work the land to grow produce for their table and for sale.

### Refugee Settlement Program ●

The Refugee Settlement Program equips newly arrived refugee and humanitarian entrants with the social and life skills necessary for successful integration and settlement in Australia.

Our programs include case management, employment and training support, English literacy, homework help for children, financial literacy and family and community participation in local events, festivals and social activities.



## RELATIONSHIP COURSES

CatholicCare offers a broad range of relationship and education programs that meet the needs of students, new parents, refugees, couples and families.

### Bringing Baby Home ●

A workshop that gives new and expectant parents knowledge and skills to manage the relationship changes a new child brings.

### Marriage Enrichment Workshops

A range of programs to help couples strengthen their marriage.

### Pre-Marriage Programs ●

Helps couples to prepare for married life. Delivered in either group (Partnerships) or private (FOCCUS) settings, couples reflect on their strengths and weaknesses and what it takes to have a strong, healthy and lasting marriage.

### Refugee Dads and Kids Weekend

Brings fathers and children together to take part in fun activities; and discuss the mutual challenges faced in melding their culture with an Australian way of life.



At CatholicCare we provide support to people at every stage of life to equip them with the skills they need to build strong, positive relationships. We know that sometimes society gives up on people, and sometimes people give up on themselves - but we never give up on our clients.

strengthening families and communities | [ccam.org.au](http://ccam.org.au)

● These services are applicable to people aged between 18-35, but do not exclude people of other age groups.

**Central Office:**  
East Melbourne  
383 Albert Street,  
T: 03 9287 5555  
E: [catholiccare@ccam.org.au](mailto:catholiccare@ccam.org.au)

**Dandenong**  
Level 2, 33 Princes Hwy  
T: 03 8710 9600

**Epping**  
713 High Street  
T: 03 8468 1305

**Footscray**  
3 Wingfield St  
T: 03 9689 3888

**Geelong**  
62 McKillop St  
T: 03 5221 7055

**Geelong**  
(Family Relationship Centre)  
Suite 2, 27-31 Myers St  
T: 1300 656 043  
T: 03 5246 5600

**Melton**  
390-392 High St  
T: 03 8746 0500

**Pakenham**  
1 Rogers St  
T: 1800 522 076

**Sale**  
21 Leslie St  
T: 1800 522 076

**Traralgon**  
41 Grey St  
T: 1800 522 076

**Warragul**  
19 Connor St  
T: 1800 522 076

**Wyndham Vale**  
510 Ballan Rd  
T: 03 9216 7777