

USING THE FAMILY VIOLENCE HELP CARDS: TIP SHEET

The **Family Violence Help Cards** inform community members, victims and perpetrators that family violence is a crime and provide information about support services that are available in Melbourne's northern metropolitan region.



This business card-sized resource consists of nine double-sided pages filled with information to help a woman who is experiencing family violence (women's help card) or a man who is perpetrating violence (men's help card). The help cards have been translated into 15 community languages. Aboriginal women's and men's cards are also available.

Why should I offer the cards to clients?

- To increase safety for women and children.
- To connect women and men into local services.
- To increase perpetrator accountability.
- To let men who use violence know that they can access support to ensure their families' safety.

Who should I offer the cards to?

- A woman who tells you she's unsafe at home.
- A woman who you suspect is unsafe at home.
- A man who tells you he is worried about his behaviour.
- A man whose behaviour is worrying you.

How do I order more cards?

Visit www.nifvs.org.au and download the order form.

How should I offer the cards?

Let your client know that you are concerned and that the card has a list of services that can help. You might say:

'I am worried about you and your safety. This card is for women who might be experiencing abuse in their home. It has phone numbers and websites of services that can help.'

'Is your behaviour causing problems for your relationship or your family? Here's a Men's Help Card — it has phone numbers and websites of services that can help.'

When should I offer the cards?

You are encouraged to offer the cards when you know (or sense) that something isn't right. Always prioritise the safety of the woman and offer the card when she is alone.

Offer the cards to any men you are concerned about, but always prioritise your safety in doing this.

Where could the cards be displayed?

Display the cards somewhere easily accessible, such as in waiting rooms or foyers. Display posters near the cards, so that community members who see the posters have easy access to take-away information, should they require it.

Is there training available?

Find out about family violence induction and training at www.nifvs.org.au