

UAA

Underwriting Agencies of Australia

Family and Domestic Violence Customer Support Policy

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UAA Family & Domestic Violence Support

Family and domestic violence is a complex issue that UAA takes seriously. Family and domestic violence refers to violent, threatening, or abusive behavior where an abuser seeks to dominate, coerce or control the other person, often an intimate family member or partner. Family and domestic violence is not limited to physical harm, it can include emotional, sexual, financial, psychological abuse and social isolation as well.

At UAA we recognise family and domestic violence impacts the communities in which we operate. We acknowledge it is complex, challenging and personal, and if you are affected by it we are committed to supporting you through this difficult time.

Your safety and wellbeing

There are a number of services available if you or someone you know is experiencing domestic or family violence. We've listed some these for you on the next page. However, in an emergency, or if you're not feeling safe, always call 000.

How can we help?

Domestic and family violence is not just limited to physical harm, but can take many forms, including financial abuse. Financial abuse is a form of family and domestic violence where there is force or intimidation used to control some or all financial decisions and force economic dependency.

At UAA we can help support you by:

- Giving you greater control over how your personal information is shared with third parties
- Finding safe ways to communicate with you in light of your circumstances
- Minimising how often you need to disclose information about family violence
- Helping you set up new insurance policies
- Ensuring an appropriate and sensitive claims handling processes
- Assisting to arrange access to financial hardship help
- Referring you to specialist services.

Training

We have given our employees training to help them recognise early signs of domestic and family violence, respond with empathy and compassion to a disclosure of domestic and family violence and refer where appropriate to external community services where additional support may be required.

Your Privacy

We recognise that privacy and confidentiality can be critical to safety in any family and domestic violence situation, and we will treat any information you give us about your situation and your personal circumstances with confidentiality. For further information please refer to our Privacy Policy.

Financial Hardship

If you've been impacted by family and domestic violence you may be eligible for financial hardship support such as deferred, reduced or waived payments for claims excesses or outstanding debts owed to us. For information on financial hardship please visit our website or call us on (02) 4925 6666.

Sometimes you may need extra help to get your finances back on track during a difficult time. For free, confidential, independent financial advice you can call the National Debt Helpline on 1800 007 007.

Employee Support

We also recognise that our own employees may be impacted by family and domestic violence and need support. We have a range of measures in place to support our people who are affected by family and domestic violence. These include, but are not limited to, our Family and Domestic Violence Policy, access to paid leave, access to free and confidential support through our Employee Assistance Program (EAP), training for our people and referrals to external support services.

Other Support Services

1800RESPECT

Phone: 1800 737 732

24 hour hotline for any Australian who has experienced, or is at risk of, family and domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

Lifeline

Phone: 13 11 14

Anyone across Australia experiencing a personal crisis or thinking about suicide.

Relationships Australia

Phone: 1300 364 277

Support groups and counselling on relationships, and for abusive and abused partners.

Kids Help Line

Phone: 1800 551 800

Free, private and confidential telephone and online counselling service specifically for young people between 5 and 25 in Australia.

Mensline Australia

Phone: 1300 789 978

24 hour phone and online support and information service for Australian men. Supports men and boys who are dealing with family and relationship difficulties.

WIRE Women's Information

Phone: 1300 134 130

Free Victorian women's service providing information, referral and support via the Women's Information Centre

Women's Legal Services Australia

Web: <http://www.wlsa.org.au/>

A national network of community legal centres specialising in women's legal issues.

Aboriginal Family Domestic Violence Hotline

Phone: 1800 019 123

A dedicated contact line for Aboriginal victims of crime who would like information on victims rights, how to access counselling and financial assistance.

Q Life

Phone: 1800 184 527

A dedicated contact line for LGBTI relationship support.



Ageing and Disability Abuse Helpline

Phone: 1800 628 221

A dedicated helpline for abuse of older people and adults with disability.

National Financial Counselling Hotline

Phone: 1800 007 007

Free, confidential, independent financial advice.