



Respecting Elders is a philanthropically funded service that supports older people in resolving conflict relating to family or carers in their lives and preventing elder abuse.

It provides support to the older person by working with them and their family to resolve their conflict.

While legal options are available, they are often expensive, adversarial and could have a negative effect on family relationships. Families in conflict over financial or care concerns may prefer not to use a formal legal process to resolve their issues.

This service enables all family members to participate in the process whilst respecting the older person's wishes.

What are the problems our service can help with?

Respecting Elders can assist families to resolve issues such as:

- Unusual or inappropriate financial activities like money being inexplicably withdrawn from their bank account.
- The use of a power of attorney for purposes other than which it was intended.
- Frequent and/or expensive gifts from an older person to their carer.
- Belongings going missing.
- A recent will or power of attorney has been made when the older person doesn't seem capable of understanding or making such documents.
- Irregular signatures on cheques.

- Someone using undue influence over an older person.
- The older person's wishes not respected or ignored.
- Being prevented from seeing friends and family.
- Social isolation.
- Increasing depression and anxiety.
- Mistreatment or neglect

What type of services are provided?

A combination of services are used to enable the family to achieve a successful outcome to their situation.

- Advocacy/ Support
- Coaching/Counselling
- Facilitated family meetings
- Mediation
- Conflict resolution
- Agreement formulation between concerned parties where appropriate
- Neutral negotiation
- Financial Counselling

What are the benefits of Respecting Elders?

The Respecting Elders Service supports older people and their families to talk freely, (through an advocate or on their own) about their wishes in a supportive environment.

It offers the opportunity for participants to reach resolution and promote better outcomes for future decision making while seeking to preserve relationships.

A FMC family consultant will provide advice on how to achieve a non-confrontational outcome – especially where family and friends are involved. They can meet with family and facilitate family meetings.

What does Respecting Elders involve?

The provision of ongoing support and advocacy for the older person throughout the process.

Intake and assessment

Counselling, Coaching and Empowering

May include financial counselling where appropriate.

Care Coordination

Our Family Consultant may refer you to other external services.

Facilitated family meetings or Mediation

A family meeting agreement on the older person's concerns based on their wishes.

Drafting of an agreement for the matters of concern to the older person.

This can be taken to an external legal resource for formalisation if required.

One to One consultation with Family or Carers

Follow Up

FMC will follow up 3-6 months after the service.

What Do I Do Now?

If you feel that your situation would benefit from Respecting Elders, or you would just like more information, please call 1800 214 117 or

Send an email to respectingelders@mediation.com.au with your contact details.

Find out more
www.mediation.com.au



Interpreters available upon request.

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