

# **Supporting and Caring for Older Tasmanians**

At Relationships Australia Tasmania our Elder Relationship Service provides mediation and counselling in a safe, respectful and listening environment. This is a service where older people and their families can be supported to have difficult conversations and discuss important life decisions. Mediation and/or Counselling can assist you with:

- Having difficult conversations
- Decisions regarding property
- Financial matters
- Medical care decisions
- Moving into residential aged care

You can attend the service on your own, with your partner, as a family, or your adult children can come by themselves.

Attending the Elder Relationship Service is voluntary and confidential. The decisions you make are not legally binding but If you would like to put any agreements you reach in writing, your practitioner can assist you with this.

### What is Elder Mediation?

Elder Mediation is a process that is facilitated by professional mediators. They aim to assist older people, their families and significant others with difficult conversations. Mediation can help families to make plans and resolve disagreements. The focus of elder mediation is to ensure that outcomes respect the rights and enhance the safety of older Tasmanians.

# What is Elder Counselling?

Elder Counselling provides you with the support you need to address and navigate issues such as; the impact of elder abuse, grief and loss, loneliness, entering retirement, caring for a partner or child, or reconciliation with family members.

#### **Our staff**

Our counsellors and mediators have professional qualifications and experience in social work, psychology, mediation, law and/or counselling and they have had specific training in supporting and working with older people.

## How much does the Elder Relationship Service Cost?

The Elder Relationship Service is supported by the Tasmanian Government. As a result, there are no fees to access our service.

#### Where is it available?

Elder Mediation and Counselling services are offered in Relationships Australia Tasmania centres state-wide. Contact us on 1300 364 277 to find your nearest centre.

If you have significant barriers to accessing our centres, please contact 1300 364 277 and speak with someone about alternate ways to access the supports you need.

## Make an appointment

You do not need a referral to use these services. Waiting times for an appointment vary according to the current demand for our services and your availability.

To make an appointment call **1300 364 277**. For more information see the RA Tas <u>website</u>





