



# Newsletter

SPRING EDITION

Welcome to the latest edition of the Family Life Newsletter.

It has been a fantastic quarter for Family Life, and we have managed to fit in some great opportunities for our supporters, volunteers and staff! Our social enterprise team has been busy, setting up a brand new Distribution Centre home and Op Shop in Moorabbin. We have welcomed 41 new volunteers to our cohort and successfully completed another Friendship Day initiative in local school communities, in addition to the ongoing reimagining and improvement of our models of service to amplify our impact in supporting families.

We are kicking off this edition with some exciting news; Family Life has been selected as an Employer of Choice in The Australian Business Awards 2023! The Australian Business Award for Employer of Choice [EOC] recognises organisations that develop workplaces that maximise the full potential of their workforce through established policies and practices which demonstrate effective employee recruitment, engagement and retention.

Amongst all of our achievements over the last three months, it is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge and celebrate the generous friendship of our long standing supporter and Patron, Graeme Disney OAM who passed away in July. Graeme leaves an extraordinary legacy of love, care and kindness which he so generously shared with Family Life and many other community organisations in Bayside. Click [here](#) to read more about Graeme's amazing contributions to the organisation.

We hope you enjoy our Spring Newsletter!

Happy reading,  
The Family Life Team

ORANGE YOU  
GLAD YOU HAVE  
FRIENDS



Friendship Day  
2023

## Celebrating Friendship with our School Community

We were thrilled at the amazing outcome of our 2023 Friendship Day schools and kindergarten initiative.

In July, local schools and kindergartens joined us to celebrate the United Nations Day of Friendship by implementing activities designed to build childrens' relationship skills and understand healthy friendship.

After a successful launch of this initiative in 2022 we were thrilled that this year we had a total of 10 primary schools and 5 kindergartens putting their hands up to participate and support Family Life.

Thank you to all who participated, we hope you had a wonderful Friendship Day celebration! Stay tuned for info on how to get involved in 2024.



## The Voice to Parliament Statement

### Family Life Voice to Parliament Statement

In line with our values of Respect, Inclusion, Community and Empowerment, Family Life supports the Voice to Parliament. Our full statement of support is now available on our Family Life website.

“It is imperative that we see this lasting change to the constitution, to give a voice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and allow meaningful contribution to policy and societal changes on issues and matters that impact their own people and communities” - Allison Wainwright, CEO.

Read our full Voice to Parliament Statement [here](#).



## NTV 2023 Conference

### Family Life Championing Men's Support Services in the Family Violence Space

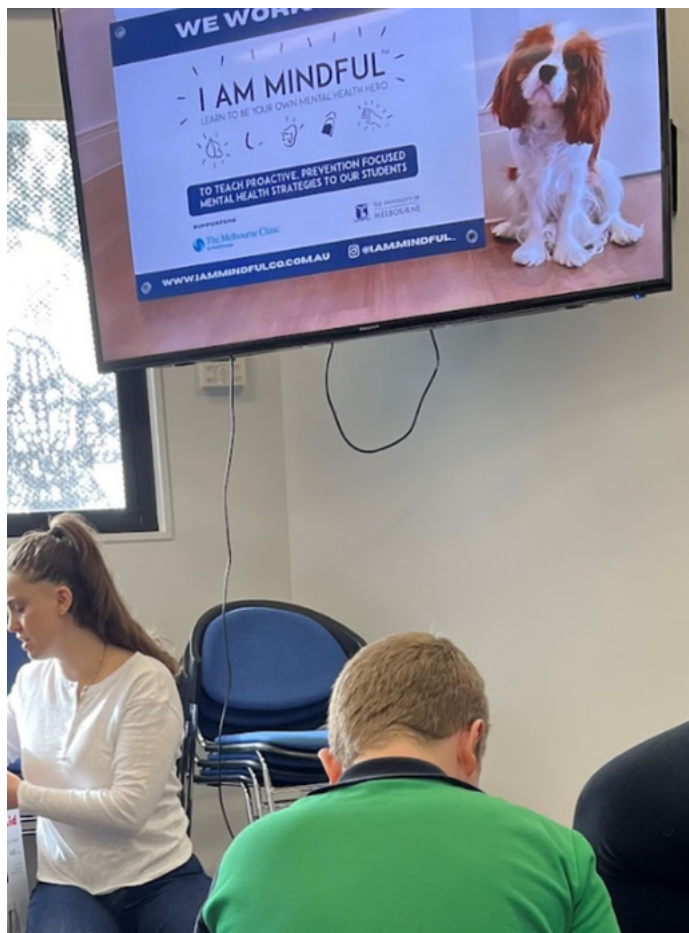
Last month, members of the Family Life team attended the No to Violence Conference: Leading the change to break the cycle of violence.

The conference brought together national and international leaders in the field to showcase research, innovative thinking and best practice work to help reduce – and end – men’s family violence.

Every year, Family Life provides behaviour change programs to hundreds of men who use violence against families.

Read more about our Men's Support Services and the No To Violence 2023 conference [here](#).





## I.Am.Mindful School Focused Youth Services Program

### I.Am.Mindful School Focused Youth Service Program: Support for Self Regulation in School Aged Children

School Focused Youth Services have coordinated the delivery of 69 interventions across schools in the Bayside, Kingston and Frankston areas.

The I.Am.Mindful program, backed by the University of Melbourne, provided students with hands-on activities and materials combined with age appropriate psychoeducation about what is happening to their bodies and how they can learn to take charge.

To find out more about the program click [here](#).



## Book Week: Read, Grow, Inspire!

### Celebrating Book Week: Read, Grow, Inspire!

On Tuesday, August 22, Family Life's Early Help team hosted a Book Week morning at the Westall Community Hub. Families came together for a morning filled with stories and rhymes that explored different cultures.

As is tradition each Book Week, children and parents wore costumes of their cherished book characters, adding a touch of fun to the festivities.

To read more about our Book Week event, click [here](#).