



MEDIA RELEASE

15 June 2009

Counselling outreach established

Relationships Australia (Victoria) has extended counselling services to the Whittlesea area through an outreach service from its Greensborough Centre.

The outreach will improve access to RAV's counselling services for residents in the greater northern suburbs region.

Centre Manager, Paul Wiseman, said some RAV clients travelled to the Greensborough Centre from as far away as Kilmore and Wallan.

"Our new outreach will be more convenient for these clients as well as others who are unable to get to Greensborough easily," he said.

Mr Wiseman said many individuals and families were under greater pressure than they were 12 months ago as a result of the economic downturn.

"A growing number of people have lost their jobs and many in our community face an uncertain future in regard to job security.

"Financial insecurity is a major stress on relationships and can cause actual relationship breakdown if there is no intervention to relieve the stress and anxiety it causes.

"Counselling can help by providing ways to lessen the impact of the stress and to help couples support each other during difficult times."

Mr Wiseman said RAV counsellors were also helping clients who were experiencing relationship difficulties following the Black Saturday bushfires.

The Whittlesea Outreach counselling service operates from the Plenty Valley Community Centre in Walnut Street, Whittlesea, from 9am to 4pm on Monday and 9am to 1pm on Friday.

Residents should call RAV's Greensborough Centre on 9431 7777 to make appointments or to seek more information.

Media enquiries: Paul Wiseman, 9431 7777

Relationship Education • Counselling • Family Mediation • Professional Training • Family Relationship Centres

Relationships Australia (Victoria) Inc. ABN: 51 263 215 677

Patrons: Professor David de Kretser, AC, Governor of Victoria, and Mrs. Jan de Kretser

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE: PO Box 8656 Armadale Victoria 3143

Ph (03) 8573 2222 Fax (03) 9822 4584 Email reception@rav.org.au www.relationshipsvictoria.com.au

CLIENT SERVICES at: Ballarat • Cranbourne • Croydon • Greensborough • Kew • Shepparton • Sunshine • Traralgon
FAMILY RELATIONSHIP SERVICES at: Berwick • Greensborough • Melbourne • Sunshine