



Supporting Reservists

Defence Community Organisation

Reservists and their families can access support from Defence Community Organisation

Defence Community Organisation provides a broad range of support services to the families of Reserve members, particularly when the Reservist is on continuous full-time service or away on deployment or exercise.

24-hour support for families

Families of Reservists can seek support, advice or referral any time from the Defence Family Helpline on **1800 624 608**. The Helpline operates 24-7 and is staffed by human services professionals including social workers and psychologists.

Reservists on continuous full-time service

The families of Reservists on continuous full-time service can access DCO's full range of support services, including:

- short-term case work and counselling,
- support for partner education and employment,
- help with childcare and programs and products for children,
- support for special needs dependants,
- assistance with children's education,
- support during deployment and time apart, and
- help in emergency and crisis.

Critical incident support

DCO provides support for families in times of illness, injury and bereavement, when the emergency occurs while the Reservist is on continuous full time service, on duty or in uniform.

Strong and supported families

We also offer services to help families become more resilient, positive and self-reliant.

The SMART suite of programs helps Defence partners and children manage the challenges of the military way of life, including deployment and parental absence, while our local staff can assist you to source and access community resources, groups or services that best suit your needs.

Defence Reserves Support

The Defence Reserves Support Council provides support and information for Reservists, including information on aspects of Reserves service such as your rights and responsibilities, education and training, health care and leave arrangements, as well as guidance for balancing study or civilian employment with your service.

1800 803 485

www.defencereservessupport.gov.au

Transitions support

Reservists planning to leave Defence can access assistance with the practical aspects of their separation at their local ADF Transition Centre. Contact the Defence Family Helpline on **1800 624 608** for more information.

