

Grants for Marriage, Child and Bereavement Counselling Services

The Family Support Agency provides grants to voluntary organisations providing:

- **Marriage and Relationship Counselling**
- **Marriage Preparation Courses**
- **Child Counselling** in relation to parental separation
- **Bereavement Counselling** and support on the death of a family member

The Family Support Agency has a directory of all the voluntary organisations providing counselling which set out the services county by county.

Contact the Family Support Agency at 01-611 4100 or
email: familysupport.agency@welfare.ie
Website: www.fsa.ie



Research and Information

The Family Support Agency has responsibility for research into matters related to its functions. The first phase of the Programme has seen 14 research projects completed.

The Family Support Agency has a key role in promoting and disseminating information about marriage and relationships, family mediation, parenting and family responsibilities and related matters.

Its role also includes co-operating with other public authorities in providing information to assist persons in balancing their work and family responsibilities.



Family Support Agency

Family Support Agency,
Floor 4, St. Stephen's Green House,
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Email: familysupport.agency@welfare.ie
Website: www.fsa.ie



Family Support Agency

**"Promoting and Supporting
Family and Community Well-Being"**



The Board

The Family Support Agency is overseen by a Board comprising 12 members. The Board is appointed by the Minister for Social and Family Affairs.

What Does the Family Support Agency do?

The Family Support Agency was set up to provide support to families. The main support services of the FSA are provided in a number of ways:

- Locally based Family Resource Centres
- Supporting organisations providing Marriage, Relationship, Child and Bereavement Counselling Services
- Family Mediation Service for couples going through a separation or divorce
- Research into family related matters
- Provision of information on family related matters
- Advising the Minister for Social and Family Affairs on family related matters

Family Resource Centres

Family Resource Centres provide a wide variety of supports and services to people within their own community. These may include:

- Information, advice and support to families in the area
- Practical assistance to community groups
- Education courses and training opportunities
- Childcare facilities
- Helping young fathers to be involved in the lives of their children
- Involvement of men in the life of the community
- Lone parents groups
- Women's groups
- After school clubs
- Older people's groups
- Parenting courses

These supports and services uphold the community development ethos and the principle of inclusiveness, both central to the values of the Family Support Agency.

Family Mediation Services

Family mediation is a professional and confidential service for people, married and non-married, who have decided to separate or divorce and who want to negotiate the terms of their separation or divorce with the help of a mediator.

Family mediation helps the people reach an agreement that meets the interests of both of them and the needs of their children. It helps them to address the issues on which they need to make decisions including:

- Parenting the children
- Financial support
- Family home
- Pensions

The service is provided free of charge and takes between three and six sessions.

The Family Mediation Service is a nationwide service. For details of the service in your area telephone 01 6344320.