

Picture a compassionate response to family conflict related to the care and safety of an ageing loved one...

Eldercaring Coordination reduces conflict among family members so they can work together more productively and focus on the ageing person's care.

Anyone can refer a case for Eldercaring Coordination when there are:

- concerns about an ageing person's care and safety
- imbalances of power
- frequent disputes about unsubstantiated issues
- possessive or controlling behaviors toward the ageing person.

Eldercaring Coordination maintains the focus of the family on the ageing person rather than their disputes.

Eldercaring Coordinators can help:

- manage high conflict family dynamics
- support the ageing person's self-determination for as long as possible
- promote safety by monitoring at-risk situations
- develop a support system for the ageing person and family.

How is Eldercaring Coordination initiated?

Eldercaring coordination begins with a referral to:

Eldercaringcoordination@rasa.org.au or by phoning: **(08) 8419 2000**

Once the EC and family members make contact, the EC conducts an intake to plan for the process and help the participants feel safe and comfortable.

Contact us

Email: Eldercaringcoordination@rasa.org.au

Phone: (08) 8419 2000

Please leave your name and contact number for someone to call you back.

For more information on ECC

www.eldercaringcoordination.com

The Eldercaring Coordination Pilot is a partnership between Relationships Australia SA and University of South Australia. It is serviced by Adelaide and Northern Family Relationship Centres in South Australia.

Eldercaring Coordination

A dispute resolution option for high conflict families that need decisions regarding the care and safety of ageing persons.



What is Eldercaring Coordination?

Eldercaring Coordination is a process for ageing persons and their families that helps resolve disputes regarding ageing persons' autonomy and safety.

What does an Eldercaring Coordinator (EC) do?

- Enables more effective communication, negotiation and problem-solving skills
- Offers education about care resources
- Facilitates the creation and implementation of an ageing person's care plan
- Recommends how to resolve non-legal conflict

How often do participants in the Eldercaring Coordination process meet with the EC?

Sessions are scheduled according to the unique needs of each family to help resolve non-legal issues. Session frequency decreases when family members can productively communicate to develop and implement an ageing person's care plan. The EC remains available so that the family can address non-legal issues as needed.

Who pays for the service?

This is currently a free pilot project offered by Relationships Australia SA.

Why shouldn't these families just go to mediation?

While many families can resolve their issues through mediation, high conflict families are unable to concentrate on the issues at hand. These are the cases appropriate for Eldercaring Coordination, where specially trained Eldercaring Coordinators (ECs) help families manage conflict, reduce tension, and overcome entrenched hostilities. Families may use mediation after participating in eldercaring coordination when they are better able to focus on the issues impacting their ageing loved one.



Should parties have a lawyer during the Eldercaring Coordination process?

While participants in eldercaring coordination may have a lawyer, lawyers are not required. Eldercaring Coordination is intended to be a confidential process, meaning that what is discussed during sessions is not to be offered as evidence in any court or tribunal. Lawyers may be invited by the EC to attend sessions, with the understanding that their approach will be collaborative.

Then what happens?

After the intake, the EC helps family members reduce conflict and focus on the needs, wishes, care, and safety of the ageing person. The EC helps the family develop and implement a care plan that is flexible enough to change with the needs of the ageing person and family members. Solutions focus on family strengths to provide for the ageing person's needs. Once family members begin to collaborate, they are better able to work with other resources to care for their ageing loved one. Through the process of Eldercaring Coordination, families can save time and money, preserve their privacy, elevate the ageing person's dignity, and pass on a legacy of peace to future generations.