



# Supporting Reservists—OP COVID-19

## Defence Community Organisation

### ADF Reservists and their families can access support from Defence Community Organisation (DCO).

DCO provides a broad range of support services to Reservists and their families, particularly when the Reservist is on continuous full-time service, away on deployment or exercise, or assigned to OP COVID-19.

#### 24-HOUR SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

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

#### OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

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

- short-term case work and counselling
- support for partner employment
- help with finding childcare and programs for children
- support for special needs dependants
- assistance with children's education
- support during deployment and time apart
- 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 SERVOP C or on duty.

#### STRONG AND SUPPORTED FAMILIES

We offer services to help families become more resilient, positive and self-reliant. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these services will be delivered online, including webinars, on DCO's website: [www.defence.gov.au/dco](http://www.defence.gov.au/dco).

#### DEFENCE RESERVES SUPPORT

The Defence Reserves Support team provide support and information for Reservists and their employers. This includes information on aspects of reserve service such as rights and responsibilities, leave arrangements, access to the Employer Support Payment Scheme and guidance for balancing study or civilian employment with Defence service. Call **1800 333 362** or see:

[www.defencereservessupport.gov.au](http://www.defencereservessupport.gov.au)

#### TRANSITION SUPPORT

Reservists ceasing SERVOP C contracts can access assistance with the practical aspects of their transition through their local ADF Transition Centre and online:

[www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Transition/](http://www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Transition/)

Defence Community Organisation offers a wide range of support services to ADF members and their families.

For more information on this factsheet and other DCO support services visit [www.defence.gov.au/dco](http://www.defence.gov.au/dco) or call the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608.

