

EXAMPLE 3

Supporting a colleague disclosing family violence

Background

Jiyu receives a disclosure from her colleague, Amelia, while in the lunchroom.

Amelia tells Jiyu that there has been an escalation in threats of physical violence and legal action from her partner following their recent separation.

Amelia has a primary school-aged child.

Amelia tells Jiyu that her former partner verbally threatened her, and pushed and shoved her in front of her child 2 years ago.

Considerations in responding to family violence

- Amelia has disclosed family violence. Jiyu identifies the following risk factors:
 - harm or threats to harm victim or family members
 - recent separation
 - escalation
 - physical harm
 - child exposure to family violence.
- While disclosures from colleagues do not fall under MARAM responsibilities, it is important to engage respectfully, sensitively and safely. Jiyu can validate Amelia's experience, convey key messages and provide support options.
- If the disclosure reveals that Amelia is in immediate danger, Jiyu should call the police on 000 and advise leadership.
- If the disclosure does not reveal immediate danger, Jiyu can support Amelia to access support like a specialist family violence service or Child Protection.

