

Drought Support & Assistance Contacts - November 2006

		Phone	Website
Rural Support – Government organisations			
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission		1300 302 502	www.accc.gov.au
Australian Tax Office (<i>deferred payments</i>)		131 142	www.ato.gov.au
Centrelink (<i>Drought relief payment, pension support, farm help, tax relief</i>)		131 021	www.centrelink.gov.au
Drought Assistance Hotline		132 316	
Farmer Assistance		1800 050 585	
Eddie Wyrzykowski - Horsham		5362 5181	
Consumer Affairs Victoria		1300 558 181	www.consumer.vic.gov.au
Department of Human Services <i>Plan, fund and deliver health, community and housing services</i> <i>Drought assistance - Tony Lynch</i>		5333 6669	www.dhs.vic.gov.au
Department of Innovation, Industry & Regional Development <i>Facilitate economic, infrastructure and community development</i> <i>Regional Development Victoria – Suzanne Gatz</i>		5381 2762	www.iird.vic.gov.au
Department of Primary Industries Victorian State Drought Advice Hotline <i>Technical farming and land management assistance; community drought forums – Chris Sounness (Horsham)</i>		136 186 5362 2111	www.dpi.vic.gov.au
Information Victoria- <i>Victorian Government departments & services</i>		1300 366 356	www.information.vic.gov.au
Legal Aid - <i>Horsham based agency providing free legal advice</i>		5381 6000 1800 177 638	www.legalaid.vic.gov.au
Rural Finance Corporation (<i>Interest subsidy support for farmers</i>)		5448 2600	www.ruralfinance.com.au
Rural Women's Network		9208 3650	www.ruralwomen.vic.gov.au
State Ombudsman		1800 806 314	www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au
Victoria Business Line		132 215	www.business.vic.gov.au
Wageline - <i>Federal awards and agreements and industry rates</i>		1300 363 264	www.wagenet.gov.au
Rural Support – Local Government			
Hindmarsh Shire <i>Community Development Officer - Joe McClelland</i>		5391 1811	www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au
Horsham Rural City Council <i>Drought Community Development Officer – Janine Sounness</i>		5382 9777 0429 418 555	www.hrcc.vic.gov.au
Rural 'Financial' Counselling Services – Identify and assess financial options for rural people (FREE)			
Mallee RFC Service	<i>Ouyen</i> <i>Wycheproof</i>	5094 1364 5493 7020	Grant Doxey David McManamey
North Central RFC Service	<i>Bendigo</i> <i>Kerang</i>	5434 6346 5450 3285	Ted Gretgrix Jan Wickes, David Pitson Geoff Reseigh
Sunraysia RFC Service	<i>Mildura</i>	5022 0799	Graeme Thornton, Don Seward
Wimmera RFC Service	<i>Horsham</i>	5381 1646	Mal Wyeth, Patrick White
South West RFC Service	<i>Hamilton</i> <i>Terang</i>	5573 0906 5592 2096	Debbie Milne Vince Thorn
Family & Generalist Counsellors - (FREE)			
Wimmera Uniting Care- Reception <i>Family, financial, personal, small business counselling</i>	<i>Horsham</i> <i>Stawell</i>	5382 6789 5358 3922	Call the Wimmera Uniting Care Horsham Office to book an appointment (03) 5382 6789.
Family & Generalists Counsellors			
Naomi Burns	<i>Donald</i>		
Robin Lewington	<i>Warracknabeal</i>		
Liz Both	<i>Nhill</i>		
Nicholas Kitchen	<i>Edenhope</i>		

Rural Support – General		
Salvation Army	Horsham Kaniva Stawell Ararat	5382 1770 5392 2304 5358 4072 5352 2720
Christian Emergency Food Centre <i>Emergency food supplies and relief to people in need</i>		5381 2311
Citizens Advice Bureau <i>Free impartial and confidential information and referral</i>		5381 2233
Red Cross ESLO Emergency Services Liaison Officer <i>Emergency relief provider</i>		5387 1377
Victorian Farmers Federation		
VFF Grains Group		1300 882 833 www.vff.org.au
Wimmera – Rob McRae Colin Coates Andrew Barber		5398 9224 5496 6255 5381 0084
Northwest Sunraysia – Dennis Gale		5024 5775
Counselling and support organisations		
<i>In addition to this list, there are a number of private psychologists, social workers and counsellors available. Please refer to your local health practitioner or yellow pages to source.</i>		
Community Counselling Service – Horsham <i>Occasional workshops, grief, parenting, emotional issues, marriage enrichment, divorce & separation</i>		5381 0828
Dunmunkle Health Services – Murtoa <i>Social worker – no charge</i>		5385 2222 www.dunmunkle.com.au
Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative <i>Koori health – no charge</i>		5382 5033
Grampians Community Health Centre (Palm Lodge) <i>Alcohol and other drug service Generalist counsellor – stress, anger, relationships</i>		5362 1200 www.gchc.org.au
Horsham Psychiatric Services		5382 6744 1300 661 323
Lowan Rural Health Network Goroke Community Health Centre <i>Generic counselling, referral service, home visits available</i>		5386 1104 www.wwhs.net.au
Rural North West Health – Warracknabeal <i>Social worker Covering Warracknabeal, Hopetoun & Beulah. Free</i>		5398 1000
West Wimmera Health Service - Nhill <i>Social worker, general counselling, domestic violence Free.</i>		5391 4263 www.wwhs.net.au
Wimmera Health Care Group – Horsham <i>Social worker, general counselling, stress management. Free</i>		5381 9242 www.wimmerahealth.com
Yarriambiack Shire Youth Services <i>General youth services 10-25 years. Will travel, no charge.</i>		5398 0114 www.yarriambiack.vic.gov.au
Other Assistance Services		
Beyond Blue – depression initiative – information only		1300 224 636 www.beyondblue.org.au
DirectLine (drug & alcohol)		1800 888 236 www.health.vic.gov.au
Family Drug Support		1300 368 186
Gambler's Help		1800 622 122 www.problemgambling.vic.gov.au
Kids Help Line		1800 551 800 www.kidshelp.com.au
Life Line		131 114 www.lifeline.org.au
Mensline Australia		1300 789 978
Men's Referral Service		9428 2899
Parentline		132 289 www.parentline.vic.gov.au
Rural Law OnLine		www.rurallaw.gov.au
SANE – Mental Health Information Line		1800 187 263 www.sane.org.au
Suicide Helpline		1300 651 251 www.suicidehelpline.org.au
Women's Information Referral Exchange (WIRE)		1300 134 130 www.wire.org.au