# Blewin’? (Text only)

Community Justice Centres can help you resolve your conflict.

## Are you blewin’?

Conflict and arguing can be a part of life – like an argument with your neighbour or a cousin, or a disagreement at work.

Community Justice Centres can help resolve your dispute.

## What is mediation?

Mediation is a way to bring people together to talk about conflict between them.

Trained mediators who have nothing to do with the argument will sit down with both parties and help you talk about the problem.

The mediator(s) don’t take sides, and they won’t make a decision or judgment about you or the dispute.

Mediators make sure each person has a chance to have their say, keep the discussion on track, and help people come to an agreement if they can.

Mediation has been used in Aboriginal communities for a long time.

## What types of disputes are suitable?

Community Justice Centres can help resolve disputes involving:

* families
* neighbours and clans
* schools
* workplace
* money matters
* and more.

## Who are the mediators?

Mediators are either Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal people, who are either local or live outside your area.

All Community Justice Centres mediators are qualified to mediate.

Let us know if you would like an Aboriginal mediator.

## How does it work?

1. **You call Community Justice Centres on 1800 990 777**

We will talk to you about the mediation process and ask you some questions about the dispute.

You can ask to speak with an Aboriginal member of staff.

1. **We contact the other person or people in the dispute**

If everyone agrees to mediation, we will organise a time, date and place that suits everyone.

If the other person or people do not agree to mediation, then we can talk to you about other services that can help you.

1. **The mediation**

On the day everyone will meet. You may be able to bring a support person along, if everyone has agreed.

The mediator(s) will explain the process and give everyone the chance to have their say.

The mediators will encourage everyone to talk to each other and help you to think about different ways of solving the dispute.

As well as group discussion, there will also be time to meet privately with the mediator(s), and have time-out to think about what is being discussed.

1. **Outcome of the mediation**

If everyone reaches an agreement on the day the mediator(s) can help to write the agreement down and will give everyone a copy.

Community Justice Centres has a high success rate. Nearly 80 percent of our mediations result in an agreement.

## Mediation with Community Justice Centres is:

* Free.
* Quick – there are no waiting lists.
* Convenient - mediations can take place in your community.
* Confidential.
* Voluntary – it is your choice to attend mediation.
* Not part of the court system.

## How to contact us

Please call us on freecall **1800 990 777**.

You can ask to speak to an Aboriginal member of staff if you like.

Alternatively, you can email us at cjc-info@justice.nsw.gov.au

For more information, you can visit our website at [www.cjc.justice.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cjc.justice.nsw.gov.au)

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