

PACT REGIONS

- South East Queensland including; Brisbane, Ipswich, Gold Coast and Caboolture.
- Toowoomba/Kingaroy
- Sunshine Coast/Gympie
- Hervey Bay/Maryborough
- Bundaberg
- Rockhampton/Gladstone/Emerald
- Mackay/Bowen
- Townsville
- Mt Isa
- Cairns

WHAT PACT VOLUNTEERS SAY ABOUT SUPPORTING CHILD WITNESSES

- *It is always interesting work. When you feel that you assisted someone, there is no other feeling like it. (Kate, Brisbane)*
- *It is challenging, rewarding and a worthwhile use of your time. (Donna, Brisbane).*
- *We have found that when you see a child witness who was initially very nervous, able to present their evidence calmly to the Judge and Barrister, it is reward enough for what we do. (Neil and Desley, Townsville)*
- *I have a love of children. I see it as a privilege to assist the community and to support kids and their families. (Brenda, Brisbane)*



PACT is a community based, not for profit organisation that receives funding through donations, membership fees and a recurrent grant from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.



<https://www.facebook.com/ProtectAllChildrenTodayInc>

CONTACT DETAILS:

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VOLUNTEERING

Make a difference

To the lives of children and families

Empower

Child victims and witnesses through the court process

Join more than 100 other Volunteers from around Queensland

To become a respected part of the Criminal Justice System

Call today

To find out more about becoming a PACT Child Witness Support Volunteer

No experience necessary

Comprehensive training and supervision provided



PURPOSE

To enhance child protection by reducing the trauma experienced by children and young people (3-17 years) who are required to give evidence within the Criminal Justice System as victims or witnesses.

CHILD WITNESS SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Child Witness Support Program provides support and court preparation for children and young people (3-17 years) who are required to give evidence in criminal courts, as victims of, or witnesses to, a crime.



PACT UTILISES THE SERVICES OF VOLUNTEERS

Child Witness Support Volunteers:

- Are thoroughly screened and trained to be impartial, unbiased and are required to hold a current Working with Children "Blue Card".
- Are court approved and accepted.
- Provide information to the child witness and their carer/s about court proceedings.
- Prepare the child witness for the court process.
- Visit the Vulnerable Witness Suites, Recording of Evidence or Court Room prior to the court hearing, if appropriate.
- Accompany the child witness whilst they meet with their Prosecutor and view their original Police Statement.
- Support and reassure the child during their waiting time in the court building.
- Accompany the child whilst they give their evidence.
- Maintain appropriate contact with the child and their carer/s until the child witness has given evidence.
- Liaise with a broad range of individuals (community, legal profession, police, Government).
- Remain impartial and do not discuss evidence.

PACT SERVICES

- Child Witness Support
- Therapy Referral Pathways
- Advocacy – Representation to Government and other Agencies on behalf of children and young people through the provision of evidence-based feedback

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Successful recruits undergo comprehensive training and supervision to provide effective and appropriate court support to child witnesses and their families.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PACT VOLUNTEER?

To obtain an Information Pack and Application Form please either visit the PACT Website www.pact.org.au or telephone PACT on **07 3006 9016** or **1800 449 632**.