

## > About Sacro

Sacro's vision is for there to be Scotland-wide access to high quality, effective services which reduce conflict and offending and which accord with Sacro's values, operating principles and criteria. To achieve this, the specific key strategic areas for Sacro are:

- Direct service provision
- Consultancy and training
- Engaging in, promoting and disseminating research
- Influencing policy and legislation

## > Direct service provision

Sacro provides a range of services to reduce conflict within families and communities.

Its services are based on evidence and international standards of good practice and Sacro is committed to development and innovation.

Sacro's staff and volunteers are trained and experienced people who are able to help people find solutions to their difficulties and disputes. Thousands of people from all over Scotland have found practical and peaceful solutions to problems through using our services.

Sacro works with a broad range of clients, many of whom have multiple needs. When appropriate, it works in partnership with local authorities and other service delivery agencies who share its values.

Sacro currently works in 28 local authorities, providing almost 80 services from 35 locations.

If you would like a translated version of this leaflet, please phone 0131 624 7270 or e-mail [info@national.sacro.org.uk](mailto:info@national.sacro.org.uk) quoting reference MOT/321.

This leaflet is also available in large print or Braille.

In order to make Sacro's services as widely available as possible, we have made every reasonable effort to facilitate easy access to all of our premises for disabled service users. Where this is not possible, we will arrange a suitable, alternative venue.

Bu broşürün çevirisini istiyorsanız, lütfen 0131 624 7270'i telefonla arayın veya eposta gönderip MOT/321 dosya numarasını söyleyin.

اگر آپ کو اس کتابچے کا ترجمہ درکار ہے تو براہ کرم 0131 624 7270 پر ٹیلیفون کریں یا [info@national.sacro.org.uk](mailto:info@national.sacro.org.uk) پر ای میل بھیجیں اور ریفرنس نمبر MOT/321 کا حوالہ دیں۔

欲索取這單張的翻譯版本，請電 0131 624 7270，或電郵 [info@national.sacro.org.uk](mailto:info@national.sacro.org.uk)，並說明檔案編號 MOT/321。

إذا كنت تريد نسخة مترجمة من هذه المنشورة الرجاء الاتصال برقم الهاتف 0131 624 7270 أو أرسل بريداً إلكترونياً إلى العنوان [info@national.sacro.org.uk](mailto:info@national.sacro.org.uk) وانكر الإشارة رقم MOT/321

এই পুস্তিকার অনুবাদ যদি আপনি পেতে চান তাহলে 0131 624 7270 নম্বরে ফোন করে অথবা ই-মেইল করে রেফারেন্স নম্বর MOT/321 উল্লেখ করবেন

Jeśli potrzebne jest tłumaczenie w polskiej wersji językowej, bardzo prosimy o kontakt pod numerem 0131 624 7270 lub drogą e-mailową [info@national.sacro.org.uk](mailto:info@national.sacro.org.uk) podając numer referencyjny MOT/321.

If you are uncertain about anything you have read in this leaflet or require further information on Family Group Conferencing, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Service at:

### Family Group Conferencing

Sacro, 11 Merry Street, Motherwell ML1 1JJ  
Tel: 01698 230433  
Fax: 01698 230410  
Email: [info@nslanarkshire.sacro.org.uk](mailto:info@nslanarkshire.sacro.org.uk)  
Web: [www.sacro.org.uk](http://www.sacro.org.uk)

Leaflet MOT/321



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## Family Group Conferences



## Information for Families and Friends



## > What is a Family Group Conference?

A Family Group Conference is a meeting in which your family can get together to talk openly about difficulties that you may be having.

It is an opportunity to make decisions that could improve things for you and your children.

Families often say that they feel decisions are taken out of their hands, especially with regard to their children. Family Group Conferences are a way of involving you more in the decisions about your children, allowing you to have your say.

## > Who can come to a Family Group Conference?

Your whole family can come.

'Family' can also include grandparents and aunts and uncles and close friends. People who work with you or your children, like a social worker or health visitor, may also be invited.

## > Who runs the Conference?

The person who will organise and run the conference is called the "Co-ordinator".

The Co-ordinator is employed by Sacro. They will have no previous knowledge of your family or any issues you may have.

Sacro is a voluntary agency, independent of Social work, Health or Education.

## > What happens first?

The Co-ordinator will visit you at your home. They will tell you more about what happens in a conference and how it could help to make things better for your family.

If you decide to go ahead with a conference, then you can discuss who to invite to the conference and what you wish to achieve.

## > What happens then?

The Co-ordinator may visit everyone who will be coming to the conference again, just to make sure they are prepared.

## > Where is the Conference?

The conference will be held in a community centre or hall near to your home. It will be a quiet and comfortable room.

## > What happens at the Conference?

Everyone will sit in a circle. The Co-ordinator will make sure that everyone gets a chance to speak and that people feel safe.

The meeting will start with your family talking about the problems or issues as you see them.

The people who work with you or your children (like a social worker) will then tell the group what they know about the situation and what help is available to your family.

You and your family will then be left alone to talk about things in private and come up with a plan for the future.

The co-ordinator and social worker will be outside the room should you want to ask anything.

Usually someone in the family will agree to make sure the plan is working and you and your family may also decide to have a second meeting to talk about how things are going. When you have made your plan, everyone will come back into the room and the plan will be written down. Everyone has to agree that the plan will meet the needs of your children. Everyone will get a copy of the plan.

## > After the Conference

You and the others named in the plan will work together to put the plan into action and make it a success.

If this is not happening you can talk to the person who has agreed to monitor the plan or to the social worker.