- Some LGBTIQA+ people may be estranged from members of their family of origin and may have created a "family of choice", a group of people with whom they share commonalities, and bonds of mutual love and support.
- In some families, the parent role may be taken on by older siblings, grandparents, uncles or aunts, or other members of a child's extended family.

## **About Us**

Mallee Sexual Assault Unit Inc. Mallee Domestic Violence Services is committed to ensuring that the value of diversity is upheld in everything that we do for our employees, clients and visitors that help us to achieve our mission.

## **Contact Us**

Phone: 03 5021 2130

Email: <u>info@msau-mdvs.org.au</u> Web: <u>www.msau-mdvs.org.au</u>

Your feedback is important to us. You can speak to one of our team members, email or contact us through our website.

info@msau-mdvs.org.au www.msau-mdvs.org.au







A family is a group of people connected emotionally, biologically, culturally or socially, who share certain commonalities and who are bonded by mutual love and support.

Mallee Sexual Assault Unit
Inc. Mallee Domestic Violence
Services recognises that the
traditional definition of
"family" – one biological
mother, one biological father,
and some number of
biologically related children –
does not accurately reflect all
families and is not inclusive
of many who present at our
service.

Mallee Sexual Assault Unit Inc. Mallee Domestic Violence Services also acknowledges:

- Families may include one, two or more parents, carers or guardians. They may or may not live together, they may be non-monogamous or they may or may not be legally married and partnered.
- Children in families may be related to their parents, carers or guardians by blood, or by a nonbiological relationship, or they may be fostered, adopted or cared for in a temporary, informal or non-legal arrangement.

- Step and blended families are common, and while families may live at different homes at different times, they are still family.
- "Rainbow Families" are formed by people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex or queer.
- Children of Rainbow Families may have been created through surrogacy, donor conception or in a previous heterosexual relationship.
   Parents or co-parents may or may not be biologically or legally related to the children in their care, and may or may not live with them some, or all of the time