

Free information and advice for working parents at the Pregnancy, Babies & Children's Expo

22 October 2013

The Fair Work Ombudsman will provide free advice and information to working parents this week as part of the Pregnancy, Babies & Children's Expo at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, South Wharf.

Fair Work advisers will be available to discuss the rights and entitlements of working and expecting parents, provide advice about requesting maternity leave and planning a return to work, and educate parents about the information and resources available at www.fairwork.gov.au/workingparents (www.fairwork.gov.au/find-help-for/parents-and-families) .

Fair Work Ombudsman, Natalie James, said it's important that working parents and expecting parents be aware of their entitlements.

"Events like the Pregnancy, Babies & Children's Expo provide a great opportunity for the Fair Work Ombudsman to proactively raise awareness of workplace laws in the community, and speak to groups that can be harder to reach - like new and expecting parents who already have a lot on their plates," Ms James said.

Advisers will also be available to speak to employers about their obligations under workplace laws and educate them about parental leave, flexible working arrangements, discrimination and the National Employment Standards.

Ms James said employers who operate at best practice and go beyond their minimum legal obligations to develop parental leave policies that are tailored to their employee needs, generate significant benefits for their business, such as a reduction in staff turnover, an increase in the number of people returning to work after parental leave, an improvement in staff morale and engagement and improved productivity.

"We see many best practice employers offer workplace flexibility to help their staff achieve a better balance between work and family responsibilities and manage their commitments, while at the same time generating a range of benefits for the business," she said.

Advisors will be located at stall G68 from Friday, 25 October to Sunday, 27 October, and a Fair Work Ombudsman workplace expert will deliver a presentation each day at 2:45 pm in the Education Centre about the rights of working and expecting parents.

Employers and employees seeking information and advice should visit www.fairwork.gov.au/workingparents (www.fairwork.gov.au/find-help-for/parents-and-families) or call the Infoline on 13 13 94.

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

Need language help?

Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this website is general in nature. If you are unsure about how it applies to your situation you can call our Infoline on 13 13 94 or speak with a union, industry association or workplace relations professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.