

## MEDIA ALERT

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September 10, 2008

# SuicideLine (VIC): A New Name and Website for Australia's Only Specialist, 24/7 Suicide Line

**What: A new name and website launched for SuicideLine (VIC)**

Formerly known as *The Victorian Suicide Helpline*, SuicideLine (VIC) is Australia's only professionally staffed 24 hour helpline for people at risk of suicide, their carers and the bereaved. It is available to all Victorians for the cost of a local call.

**Call: 1300 651 251**

The new name makes it easier to find in online and in community directories, while clearly stating the purpose of the service.

A new online resource centre has been launched today to provide accessible information and practical resources to people concerned about suicide.

**Visit: [www.suicideline.org.au](http://www.suicideline.org.au)**

**When: Today - September 9, 2008 - World Suicide Prevention Day**

**Who:** SuicideLine (VIC) is available to all Victorians, and provides specialist support to those at risk of suicide, those concerned for others, and those bereaved by suicide.

SuicideLine (VIC) is managed by Crisis Support Services – Australia's leading professional telephone counselling provider. The service is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by qualified counsellors, psychologists and social workers.

SuicideLine (VIC) is funded by the Victorian Department of Human Services.

**Where:** SuicideLine (VIC) is available throughout Victoria on 1300 651 251  
[www.suicideline.org.au](http://www.suicideline.org.au) is available Australia wide.

**Please:** **When you are reporting on sensitive issues related to suicide (within Victoria), encourage your audience to contact SuicideLine (VIC) for professional 24/7 support**

**More Information:** **Caroline Doherty on 03 8371 2832 or 0403 574 919**  
**Cara Spencer on 03 8371 2806 or 0417 030 232**