

## Top End Family Pathways Network Nhulunbuy Mega Services Expo

By Melinda Schroeder, Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission (NTLAC)

On 18 November 2008 the Top End Family Pathways Network held a Mega Services Expo in Nhulunbuy.

The Pathways Network aims to work towards an integrated family law system. We hold regular meetings of service providers to keep organisations connected and up to date with the service each is providing as well as any recent developments or changes to procedure.

Members of the Top End Family Pathways Network come from a wide range of organisations that provide services for separating families, including counsellors, mediators and legal practitioners specialising in family law, and representatives from other services such as Family Law Courts, the Child Support Agency and Centrelink.

The aim of the Mega Services Expo was to bring family support service providers together who are based in Nhulunbuy, as well as those services from Darwin who provide outreach to Nhulunbuy. Participants were able to share information about their services, strengthen and build existing and new relationships and enhance referrals between agencies.

Twelve agencies participated in the event, with six being based locally and six from Darwin.



*Participants in the Mega Services Expo in Nhulunbuy*

The group used two different case scenarios depicting families in crisis as a basis for providing information on how their service could assist various members of the family and how they would make referrals.

It was also a great opportunity for service providers to display and distribute information booklets and brochures about their services and/or programs.

The Expo provided a unique oppor-

tunity to focus on issues specific to Nhulunbuy and surrounding communities, a greater understanding of service delivery in Nhulunbuy and of outreach services, referrals processes, eligibility criteria and to forge new contacts. If you would like further information on the Mega Services Expo, or on the Top End Family Pathways Network, please contact the Project Officer, Melinda Schroeder, on 8999 4697 or email [melinda.schroeder@ntlac.nt.gov.au](mailto:melinda.schroeder@ntlac.nt.gov.au)



*Service providers present a session in Nhulunbuy*



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