

Who is CatholicCare?

CatholicCare, formerly known as Centacare, is the welfare arm of the Roman Catholic Church and has operated within the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn for more than 50 years.

During this time CatholicCare has grown from the beginnings of a small volunteering organisation to the large multidisciplinary welfare agency it is today. CatholicCare operates with a simple and clear premise – to help people.

This aim has not changed over the years.

Helping people involves valuing, strengthening, assisting, supporting and caring for people who are less advantaged in our community.

Do I have to be Catholic to use this service?

The answer is NO. CatholicCare provides services to all members of our community. We ensure equitable access to all individuals using our services.

Privacy and Confidentiality

CatholicCare is committed to providing high quality services with respect to confidentiality, accessibility and equity to persons in the community. With this quality in mind we have also attained Quality Management System accreditation to ISO 9001:2008.



(Formerly known as Centacare)
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Youth Connections

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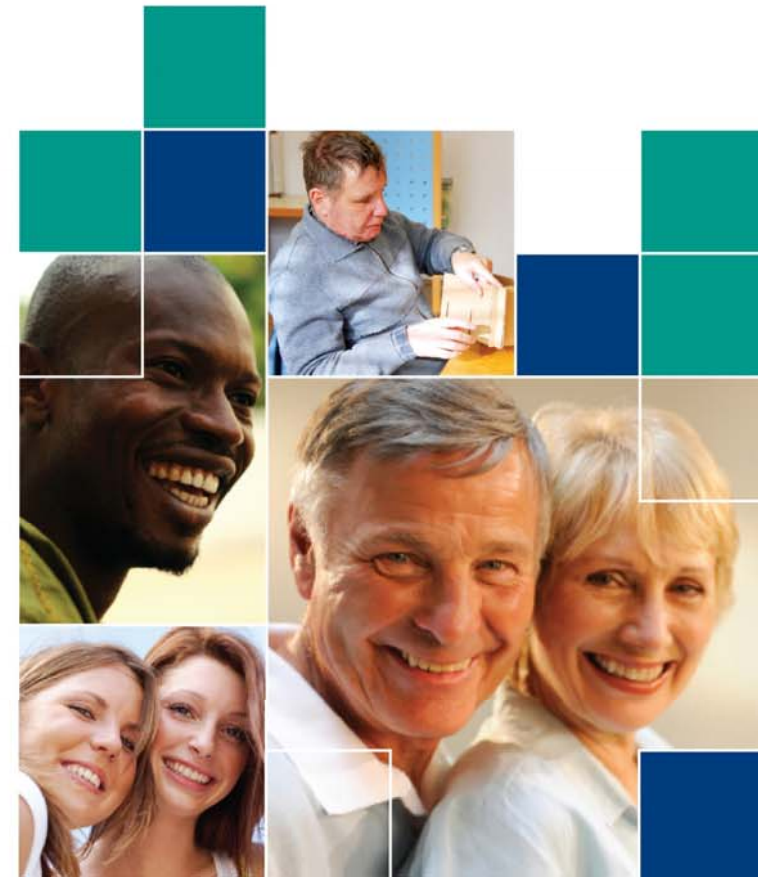
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Youth Connections



What is Youth Connections?

Youth Connections will provide a flexible, individualised and responsive service to assist young people who are most at risk of disengaging from education or training and therefore not attaining Year 12 or equivalent and not making successful transition to further study, training or work.

The Youth Connections Program will offer a continuum of services so that young people at risk can access the help they need. The service will work with a spectrum of at risk youth, including those who are most at risk of disengaging from school through to those who are severely disengaged from education, family and community.

Our service delivery will be flexible and seamless and will reflect the young person's personal situation and circumstances, aiming to build resilience and improve the personal skills and wellbeing of the young person.

Youth Connections Providers will also have a role in strengthening services in their region, by working through Partnership Brokers and relevant State and Territory services to assist education providers and other organisations to build their own capacity to work with at risk young people.

In addition, the Youth Connections Program will offer youth focused innovative activities for young people with the aim of finding, connecting and engaging severely disengaged youth.

The Aim of Youth Connections

Youth Connections will provide a safety net for young people who have disengaged or at risk of disengaging from education and will offer flexible case managed support and services that recognise the role that family and community play in a young person's wellbeing and development

The aim of the Youth Connections Program is to

- Develop resilience and self worth
- Develop strategies to overcome barriers to participation and engagement
- Make positive life choices
- Develop Social skills
- Engage or re-engage successfully with family and community
- Improve their health and wellbeing
- Sustain engagement or re-engagement with education
- Successfully transition through education
- Prepare for participation in further education, training or employment pathways
- Improve career development and life skills

Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the Youth Connections Program, a young person must be

- Identified as being at risk of not attaining Year 12 or equivalent **and** at risk of not making a successful transition through school and from school to further education, training or work
- Australian Citizen or on a Humanitarian Visa (Sub classes 200-204, 866 and 851)
- Aged between 11 and 19 years of age

Referral

Young people may be referred to the Youth Connections Program through the following

- Schools
- Other education and training providers
- Other provider of services or programs involving young people
- Self—referral
- Family members or guardians
- Centrelink
- Job Services Australia Provider
- Another young person
- Other

Youth Connections is funded by the Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

