



Australian Government

Department of Social Services

# A new way of working: grant funding in DSS

## Families and Communities Programme

### Families and Children

The Australian Government has a new way of working that recognises and supports the work of civil society organisations. These new arrangements will reduce red tape for civil society, provide greater opportunity for collaboration in the delivery of services and generate better outcomes for communities and individuals by effectively targeting community needs and priorities while reducing duplication and administrative burden.

The [Families and Communities Programme](#) aims to support families, improve children's wellbeing and increase participation of vulnerable people in community life to enhance family and community functioning. The Programme encompasses seven activities that support the Australian Government's priorities and responsibilities.

The [Families and Children activity](#) is one of these activities and will provide integrated services for families to achieve improved child, youth, adult and family wellbeing, increased economic engagement and more cohesive communities. To achieve this objective, services must work collaboratively to provide an integrated suite of local services. It consists of six sub-activities:

- Family Law Services
- Family and Relationship Services
- Communities for Children Facilitating Partners
- Children and Parenting
- Young People
- Adult Specialist Support.

Building on the foundations of the former Family Support Program, strengthening service delivery is a key driver in this new way of working. The Australian Government also recognises the strong record of Family and Relationship Services, Family Law Services and Communities for Children Facilitating Partners in delivering quality services for Australian Families by offering longer term agreements to deliver these important early intervention and prevention sub-activities.

Under this activity, families, children and young people will continue to access early intervention and prevention services to improve wellbeing, enhance family functioning and strengthen communities.

For more information visit [www.dss.gov.au/grants](http://www.dss.gov.au/grants), email [grants@dss.gov.au](mailto:grants@dss.gov.au) or call the DSS Grants Hotline on 1800 625 136.