

Australian Government Department of Social Services



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Fact sheet

Find and Connect Support Services grant funding

Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants were adversely affected by Australia's past institutional, child welfare and child migration practices and policies.

Find and Connect Support Services provide specialist services and support to improve outcomes and enhance wellbeing for people who experienced pain and suffering while placed in institutional or other forms of out-of-home care, or as a result of being placed in these types of care.

Find and Connect Support Services are delivered under the Families and Communities Programme. This programme aims to support families, strengthen relationships, improve the wellbeing of children and young people and increase participation of people in community life to enhance family and community functioning.

What has been offered?

Nine organisations across Australia have been offered a share of around \$9.1 million to provide Find and Connect Services from 1 March 2015 through to 30 June 2017.

These organisations are:

- The Child Migrants Trust (National)
- Berry St (Victoria)
- Micah Projects (Queensland)
- Relationships Australia (New South Wales)
- Relationships Australia (Northern Territory)

What services will be delivered?

- Relationships Australia (South Australia)
- Relationships Australia (Tasmania)
- Relationships Australia (Western Australia)
- The University of Melbourne (Victoria)

The Find and Connect Support Services provide specialist counselling, referral services, support programmes and assistance to locate and access records and reconnect with family members (where possible) for Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants.

The services also support the Find and Connect Web Resource. This searchable database provides information about homes, record holdings and details of how to access records of institutions providing care during the 20th century. The web resource also has practical advice about accessing support and help in obtaining personal records.

The new way of working for grants

The Department's new grant arrangements provide greater certainty for social service providers to improve service delivery for the community.

As part of this new way of working for grants, service providers have the scope and flexibility to be responsive, innovative and creative in meeting the needs of, and achieving better outcomes for, the Australian community.

These improvements will create a more efficient and effective way of delivering government funds to the community by reducing red tape and duplication for service providers and creating more streamlined, simplified and consistent reporting processes.

For more information on the new way of working for grants visit DSS Grants page.