annual report 2015/16

-



new frontiers



about ozchild

For more than 165 years OzChild has been protecting some of Australia's most vulnerable children, young people and families.

Our Vision

All children and young people are safe, respected, nurtured and reach their full potential.

Our Purpose

OzChild supports vulnerable children and young people by providing healing, preventing abuse and neglect and strengthening families.

Our Commitment

All of our services are underpinned by a robust and contemporary governance framework, based on risk identification and resource prioritisation.

if a child's family is breaking down:

counselling to create positive life changes.

childfirst ensures at-risk children can access services.

volunteers trained to support families in need.

family solutions therapeutic care for families breaking down.

families first interventions to prevent family breakdown.

family law ensuring healthy and safe separations.

if a child's home is no longer safe:

kinship care children go to live with a relative or friend.

foster care children go to live with a foster family.

extra support (targeted care packages)

supports the transition of children and young people from residential care to home based care placements.

therapeutic foster care neglect/trauma-trained specialist carers.

family options support to families with children with disabilities.

together again assessing if children can be reunited with family.

carer support ongoing training, respite and care for carers.

if a child needs extra help:

shine assist counselling for at-risk school students.

chance to shine scholarships for disadvantaged children.

school services therapists for students experiencing difficulties.

valerie may house respite care for children with disabilities.

futures for young adults support for school-leavers with disabilities.

mentoring trained mentors matched to our foster children.

permanent care funding aids the transition from foster and kinship care into permanent care.

president's report



This past year marks the development, approval and implementation of our new strategic plan – and the start of an exciting new chapter in the OzChild story.

In developing this new plan, we reflected on our legacy and the context in which we now work – a rapidly changing, dynamic and challenging world of nationwide systemic reform as more and more families need outside support to help raise healthy, happy and productive children and young people. Governments are reforming overburdened systems that support children, young people and families; and new solutions are needed to enable more efficient and effective outcomes for vulnerable people in our communities.

We started the planning process by refreshing and reframing our vision and purpose – our daily reminder of why we do what we do. Our ambitious new plan offers us challenges but also provides the tools to help achieve something truly important. It positions us to help shape state wide reforms and respond to initiatives outside Victoria, and to be a catalyst for sector-wide improvement. With a focus on sustained investment in strengthening and growing OzChild, I am enthusiastic about the impact we can have for the many families, children and young people who need our help.

This new plan is the start of an important period for OzChild and we are focused on ensuring we are positioning the organisation to meet our vision: that all children and young people are safe, respected, nurtured and reach their full potential. Our work, like that of many community organisations, relies heavily on the determination, altruism and generosity of donors and volunteers. Volunteers support us as carers, mentors and in the OzChild Op Shop while others support the OzChild Gala and other fundraising activities. I'm particularly inspired by the kindness, generosity and commitment of our volunteers – thank you so much for all that you do.

I would like to thank my fellow committed Directors, who also give their time and expertise as volunteers, it is a privilege to work with such fine colleagues to help provide the organisation with the tools and resources that enable better outcomes for the children and young people in our care. I pay credit to our CEO, Lisa J Griffiths, who continues to provide inspiring leadership, and her executive and staff who work tirelessly to serve thousands of vulnerable children, young people and families.

Helen Maxwell-Wright President OzChild Board of Directors

chief executive officer's report

OzChild is in the midst of an incredible transformation – as this report goes to print we are busy rolling out exciting new evidence based services, and working on some innovative initiatives and partnerships that will grow the effectiveness and impact of our work in the community.

The child and family welfare sector faces more challenges now than it has ever seen, with a rapidly increasing number of children being identified as 'at-risk' and many removed from families and placed into the out of home care system. The story is the same across Australia and both the narrative and interventions need to radically change. We are committed to working in partnership with government and a range of agencies to meet these challenges and provide impactful solutions. Our transformation to deliver evidence based services is our commitment to ensure that our staff and volunteers have access to the most contemporary and up to date interventions that can dramatically change lives.

This year I had the privilege of being appointed to the Victorian Government's Ministerial Advisory Committee on the Roadmap to Reform to improve outcomes for the increasing number of children and young people in the out of home care system in Victoria. Through this appointment and in many roles we play as an organisation we will continue to work alongside the sector and government to influence policy and funding settings to ensure that the most vulnerable children and young people in our community are safe, respected, nurtured and reach their full potential.

The conclusion of the 15/16 financial year and commencement of our new strategic plan provides an important opportunity to reflect on our progress. I'm pleased that we have secured the financial viability of OzChild, and have built a strong base from which we can grow the organisation and increase our impact.

In support of our strategic goal to strengthen our impact, we have increased our collaborations in 15/16, we worked in partnership with Permanent Care Victoria to facilitate funding which supports the transition from foster and kinship care into



permanent care arrangements. We provided Targeted Care Packages to support the transition of children and young people from residential care placements to home based care placements where their needs will be better met. We became part of the recently established consortium ACT Together which meant that for the first time in five years, we would deliver our out of home care services outside of Victoria.

To further extend our reach we strengthened our services by building strong relationships with Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency, Anglicare, Permanent Care Victoria and international partners The New York Foundling and Treatment Foster Care Oregon. We were pleased to work in partnership with the sector on the statewide Fostering Connections campaign to increase the number of foster carers across the state.

To integrate our business services and develop and nurture our people we made critical improvements to our information technology systems, increased capacity in our people management and invested in business development to ensure we have the skills, capacity and resources to meet our impact and growth objectives.

It's humbling to be CEO of such an amazing organisation and I pay tribute to our many carers and volunteers who contribute tirelessly and to our board, staff and donors who all remain so dedicated to our vision. Yours in making a difference.

Lisa J. Griffiths Chief Executive Officer



evidence based services

The significant increase in the number of children in out of home care in Australia coupled with the increasing intensity and complexity of the care required to meet the needs of these children, provides clear evidence that more impactful solutions are necessary.

In 2015/16 OzChild embarked on a global search to identify best practices, programs and supports that would significantly improve the lives of children, young people and families. Following an extensive evaluation of evidence based services, OzChild decided that the deployment of evidenced based services would strengthen our impact.

Together with Anglicare Victoria and the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA), OzChild is introducing internationally renowned evidenced based services to Australia for the first time.

OzChild introduced the first of our evidence based services to our continuum of care in 2016 with SafeCare® and Functional Family Therapy – Child Welfare (FFT-CW®); and, OzChild will introduce Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO®) in 2017.

SafeCare® and Functional Family Therapy -Child Welfare (FFT-CW®) services assist with placement prevention and reunification of children from out of home care. SafeCare® is an evidence based parenting program for parents of children aged 0-5 who are at risk for, or have been reported for child neglect or physical abuse. Functional Family Therapy -Child Welfare (FFT-CW®) is an evidence-based model specifically developed for families with children and young people (0-17) at risk of being removed from care. FFT-CW® is designed to improve family dynamics, communication and supportiveness while decreasing intense negativity and dysfunctional patterns of behaviour.

Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO®) is the only known empirically proven therapeutic foster care model alternative to residential care placements. The program is designed for children and young people of all ages in residential care or at risk of entering into residential care because of very serious emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. TFCO® has a placement duration of six to nine months. At the end of the successful placement, the young person is reunified with their biological family (including kinship care placements), or is placed in lower intensity long-term foster care or permanent care.

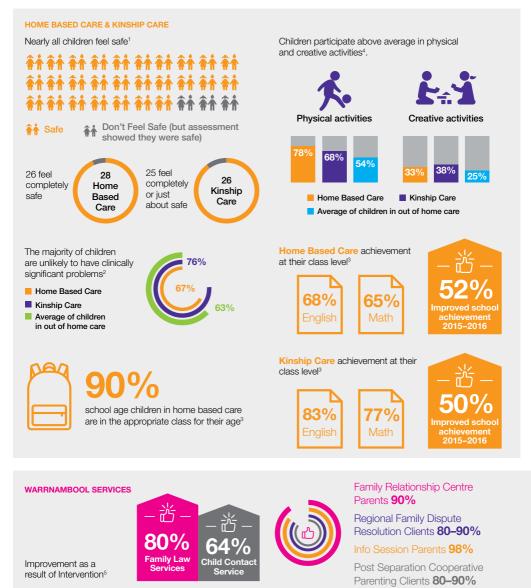
Each of these evidence based services has been proven to consistently achieve outstanding results for vulnerable children and young people as well as their families. Each program is known to prevent or reduce intensity of involvement in the out of home care system.

Evidence based services are research proven programs that are backed by high quality international research (including large scale randomised control trials); demonstrating that the intervention is consistently effective for the intended client group. Evidence based services are characterised by a clearly articulated theory, comprehensive staff training manuals, model adherence measures and on-going quality assurance systems.

OzChild is committed to providing evidence based services and will continue to add new evidence based services to our continuum of care.

measuring our outcomes

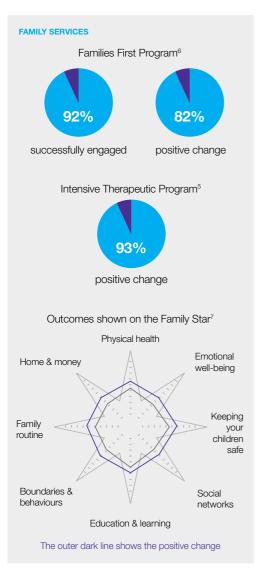
Consistent with OzChild's goal to strengthen our impact, Home Based Care, Kinship Care, Family Services and Warrnambool Services measured outcomes achieved by our programs for the 2015/2016 financial year. Every two years, OzChild seeks formal service user feedback from our families (parents and children), foster and kinship carers and volunteers.



1. DHHS mandated Viewpoint survey, November 2015.

- 2. Measured by Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (Goodman, 1997)
- 3. OzChild Education Report, February, 2016.

- 4. DHHS Out of Home Care Tracking Survey April 2016.
- 5. Department of Social Services Standard Client Outcomes Reporting Tool.



Service User Feedback

KINSHIP CARE



Children 95–98% Carers 90–100% Support Group 100%

98% of children felt their worker listened and explained things to them

95% of carers felt satisfied with the service

FAMILY SERVICES



Children **100%** Parents **80–90%** Volunteers **98–100%**

100% of children were satisfied that their case worker listened to and understood them

90% of parents felt supported by the program

100% of the parents' volunteers felt they were treated with respect and that the service was professional and would recommend the service to others

FOSTER CARE



Children **90–100%** Carers **80–95%**

100% of children felt their worker listened to them

90% of carers feel supported



Parents 100%

100% of clients (parents answering on behalf of their children) rated the Camp program as "very good" or "excellent" in relation to: receiving information in a timely manner, being greeted upon arrival and their needs being met while on the camp".



Children Contact Service Parents **100%** Children Contact Service Children **92%**

90% of parents using the service that there had been improvements in their situation with their child

90% of children enjoyed their time at the service

6. North Carolina Family Assessment Scale General and Reunification.

7. Measured on Family Star: www.outcomesstar.org.au



Disability Parents **100%** Disability Children **100%**

100% of children enjoyed the program 100% of parents felt the service met their children's needs

our board of directors

Our board of voluntary directors are dedicated to the best possible outcomes for children and act in an honorary capacity.



Helen Maxwell-Wright | President

Helen Maxwell-Wright has worked in the non-profit, health and commercial sectors. Between 1993 and 2007, Helen was on the board of the International Diabetes Institute and was the Managing Director from 2002-2007. Helen is on the Panel of Chairs of the Monitoring Committee of Medicines Australia, and consultant to the Aus & NZ College of Anaesthetists and the College of Intensive Care Medicine.



David Impey | Vice President

David joined the board in 2011 and is currently the Chief Executive Officer, Community Enterprise Foundation with Bendigo Bank. David has significant director experience in the not for profit and commercial sector having worked as the National General Manager for Multiple Sclerosis Australia between 2005 and 2007 and as Director of PowerKat Marketing.



Sally Leake | Vice President

Sally joined the board in 2014 and has previously served on the boards of Casterton Memorial Hospital, North East Housing Service and Women's Liberation Halfway House. Sally previously served on Australian Institute of Company Directors not for profit Advisory Committee in Victoria. She is presently on the board of the Monivae College Foundation. Sally is the State Manager, Victoria, for the AICD. She was awarded Australia's Centenary Medal in 2003 for her outstanding service to CFA.



Michael Wootten | Treasurer

Michael joined the board in 2014 and now the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Whittlesea. He is an experienced executive and director who has worked in emergency services and public authorities for over 20 years. Michael became the Director of Finance & Administration at the CFA in 2001; Executive Director of Business Services in 2011; and Chief Executive Officer in 2015.



Stephen Fontana

Stephen joined the board in 2014. His career with Victoria Police began in 1975 and in his current role as Assistant Commissioner Crime Command he manages the Organised Crime, State Anti-Gangs, Finance & Cyber Crime, Serious Crime, Specialist Support and Operations Support portfolios across the state. Stephen won the Australian Police Medal in the 2002 Australia Day Honours.

Dr. Angela Williams

Angela joined the board in 2013. With a background in forensic medicine, Angela has helped many women, children and families in crisis. Currently working as a Doctor with the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, Angela is also a foster carer and interested in tangible programs that concentrate on the emotional and practical wellbeing of children.



Michael Hayja

Michael joined the board in 2015 and is the Partnership Executive with Perpetual in Melbourne. He has a key role n helping the not for profit sector benefit from Perpetual's clients' philanthropic aspirations. Michael has worked in the financial services industry for over 20 years and is passionate about the wellbeing and future aspirations of children.



Catherine Dunlop

Catherine joined the board in 2015 is one of Australia's most respected lawyers in the field of Workplace Health and Safety and in Inquiries and Coronial Inquests. She is Partner at Maddocks where she acts for public and private sector clients, is the Deputy Chair of the Emergency Services Foundation and has been on the Best Lawyers in Australia List since 2013.



Professor Kerry Arabena

Kerry joined the board in 2016 and is the Chair of Indigenous Health and Director of the Indigenous Health Equity Unit at the University of Melbourne. A descendent of the Meriam people of the Torres Strait, Kerry dedicates her work to improving health and social outcomes for Indigenous kids and families.

we celebrate with one of our carers

as she receives prestigious award

OzChild congratulates one of our carers single mum and foster carer Helen Fox for winning the prestigious Robin Clark Protecting Children Award and acknowledges her tireless efforts to advocate for children in her care. The Robin Clark Protecting Children Award recognises those who have shown hard work, commitment and dedication to protect children and families.

In celebration of her 29 year career, we caught up with Helen to ask a few questions about her life as a carer.

What was foster care like at the start?

"From the start, things were a lot simpler." ... She recalls, "I've fostered little ones, teenagers and now I'm back to fostering little ones again."

What is foster care like for you today?

"I'm a domestic engineer," Helen laughs. "That's a stay at home mum."

"I'm still at it 29 years later. I still love it. I still get butterflies when I get a call and think, 'Oh maybe it's OzChild!' That never goes away."

As well as her three biological kids, Helen is fostering twin girls, two little boys, and recently achieved permanent care for an adolescent girl.

What's it like caring for all those children?

"Sometimes the house gets into a right mess, but you get on top of it when you've got the time," Helen says.

"All the kids do Little Athletics and swimming lessons." She beams, "It gives them that bit of confidence, they get trophies and awards each week, and it's encouraging for them. They love it!"



How did you come to have permanent care of your foster daughter?

"Her father and mother had both passed away," Helen explains. "But it made a difference to our whole family. She knows she belongs, she knows she's not going anywhere."

What would you say you've learned as a foster carer?

"All I can do is be supportive. I can't change everything, so I care for the kids and hope for the best outcome."

Helen has also found good allies through foster care. "Your case worker is the most important part. If you have a worker who knows you well, they can support you and make decisions very quickly for you."

What is your advice to new foster carers?

Helen's advice is to focus on the kids and don't try and go it alone....and "understand these children are not ours. We are here to nurture them, love them and care for them while we have them."

"And that's always been my motto. Some children really pull at your heartstrings – I've got three of them! – but the aim is to get these children back to a better situation."

To read the full interview please visit our website www.ozchild.org.au

treasurer's report

2015/16 financial year has seen OzChild exceed its principal goal of achieving a balanced budget, ensuring ongoing stability and enabling growth into the future.

The commendable 2015/16 result was highlighted by an operating surplus of \$160,437 (2014-15: deficit of \$378,730) along with a comprehensive surplus of \$1,484,990 (2014-15: \$101,410); the latter mainly due to revaluations performed on service and endowment properties.

With this surplus, OzChild continued to build its strong asset base with net assets increasing to \$22.07M (2014-15: \$20.58M)

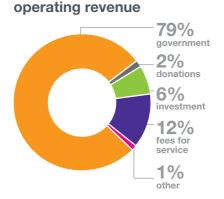
The result can be attributed to a major culture shift around financial management, led by the CEO and the Director of Finance and Planning, working collaboratively with those with key budget authority to operate within a break even environment.

The result of this process, along with the ongoing positive benefits from the previous year's financial improvement, has secured the financial viability of OzChild. The fact the result was achieved twelve months ahead of schedule demonstrates OzChild's improved management and governance of financial matters.

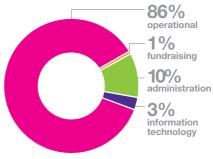
The development of this solid financial foundation is critical for OzChild and its future. A strong financial position will ensure the organisation can deliver practical solutions and enjoy continued growth as it rolls out new evidence based services.

On behalf of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee, CEO Lisa Griffiths, the finance team, led very capably by Mark Powell, and the entire Executive are to be congratulated on achieving the outstanding 2015/16 result. As Treasurer, I am confident that the team has the capability, technical competence, and strategic outlook to maintain OzChild's financial sustainability into the future.

Michael Wootten | Treasurer



operating expenses



comprehensive income

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ending 30 June 2016.

The income from endowment funds is available to be applied in accordance with the directions of each endowment toward the services provided by Children Australia Inc.

This statement also shows Other Comprehensive Income which includes unrealised gains and losses on market based investments and service providers.

	2016 (\$)	2015 (\$)
operating revenue		
Government grants and subsidies	14,419,095	14,070,457
Donations and fundraising activities	353,799	301,067
Investment income	1,168,229	1,223,265
Fees for service	2,131,484	2,349,855
Other income	184,732	315,854
total operating revenue	18,257,339	18,260,498
operating expenses		
Operational costs	15,516,016	15,969,132
Fundraising costs	135,052	116,556
Administration costs	1,910,653	1,996,695
Finance costs	12,728	8,076
Information technology costs	521,570	543,459
Property costs	883	5,310
total operating expenses	18,096,902	18,639,228
operating deficit for the year	160,437	(378,730)
endowment funds revenue		
Investment income	1,721	1,639
Expenses related to sale of endowment properties	(2,150)	(75,898)
Fair value loss on endowment investment properties	125,000	(24,000)
endowment deficit	124,571	(98,259)
operating and endowment deficit for year	285,008	(476,989)
other comprehensive income		
Fair value movements on available-for-sale financial assets - managed funds	(263,018)	448,399
Gain on revaluation of service properties	1,463,000	130,000
other comprehensive surplus	1,199,982	578,399
total comprehensive surplus for the year	1,484,990	101,410

financial position

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016

This report includes a summarised version of the audited financial statements. A full version of the financial statements is available on our website at www.ozchild.org.au

	2016 (\$)	2015 (\$)
current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,379,059	3,130,131
Receivables	787,456	519,488
Financial assets	1,622,901	1,082,901
Other assets	161,556	67,640
Non current assets held for sale	-	-
total current assets	4,950,972	4,800,160
non current assets		
Financial assets	18,052,064	18,414,672
Property, plant and equipment	4,128,624	2,689,670
Endowment property	820,000	695,000
total non current assets	23,000,688	21,799,342
total assets	27,951,660	26,599,502
current liabilities		
Provisions	4,521,198	4,627,596
Payables	1,131,073	1,163,658
total current liabilities	5,652,271	5,791,254
non current liabilities		
Provisions	233,044	226,892
total non current liabilities	233,044	226,892
total liabilities	5,885,315	6,018,146
net assets	22,066,346	20,581,356
oguite		
equity Endowment funds	17 77/ 502	17 650 000
	17,774,593	17,650,022
Asset revaluation reserve	2,545,633	1,082,633
	2,559,037	2,822,055
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	(812,916)	(973,354)
total equity	22,066,346	20,581,356

thank you

The work we do would not be possible without the support of so many who have made financial contributions, helped with fundraising or donated products, knowledge or time, this financial year.

our children and young people

OzChild acknowledges the very special children and young people whose care and wellbeing we are entrusted with every day.

our carers, mentors and volunteers

We'd like to say a special thank you to our carers and volunteers. Without their devotion, generosity and courage, our work would not be possible.

our patron

Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria

ambassadors

- Greg Bate
- Steve Cadden
- Jason McClintock
- Frank Cetrola
- Dr Gillian Sparkes

government

- Advancing Country Towns
- Australian Department of Social Services
- Berwick Secondary College
- Cardinia Shire Council
- City of Casey
- Cranbourne Secondary College
- Cranbourne East Secondary College
- Department of Education & Training
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Premier & Cabinet
- Koo Wee Rup Secondary College
- Mornington Peninsula Shire

our partners

- ACT Together Consortium
- Alannah & Madeline Foundation
- Anglicare Victoria
- Australian Childhood Foundation
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare
- Child Protection
- Communities for Children
- Communities That Care
- Community of Christ Church Frankston
- CREATE Foundation
- Foodbank Victoria
- Foster Care Association Victoria
- Frankston City Council, Family and Youth Services
- Functional Family Therapy Inc.
- GIVIT
- Good Shepherd Youth and Family Services
- Hanover Children's Resource Fund
- Highett Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank
- Jasco Network Solutions
- Kids Under Cover
- Kinship Carers Victoria
- Lighthouse Foundation
- MOAT: Mental Health Services Australia
- North of the Yarra Quilters Guild
- Permanent Care and Adoptive Families
- SafeCare
- South West Koori Network (Gunditjmara and Framlingham (Kirrae Health Services) in Warrnambool, Dhauwurd Wurrung Elderly & Community Health Services Inc in Portland, and Windamara in Heywood and Hamilton).
- The Mirabel Foundation
- The New York Foundling
- The Pyjama Foundation
- Treatment Foster Care Consultants
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency

contributors

- Anna Towan
- B1G1 Giving
- Behavioural Modelling Research
- BlackRock
- Booran Holden
- Brian M Davis Charitable Trust
- BUDU P/L
- Cassandra Gantner Foundation
- Cetrola Legal
- Charities Aid Foundation
- Cidec P/L
- Emerald Patchaholics
- Endeavor Hills Lioness
- Estate of Edward Davies
- Estate of Henry Brough Smith
- Estate of John Lambrick
- Estate of Paul Edward Dehnert
- Father's Day Bike Ride Cyclists
- For Children Fundraising Committee
- Hall & Wilcox Lawyers
- Harvey Patterson Fund
- HWA Insurance Brokers
- Joe White Bequest
- Kokkin & Brown
- Make A Difference Office Supplies
- Melbourne Sports Hub
- Melbourne Crusaders
- Minuteman Glen Waverley
- Morgans Financial Brighton
- Norma Foster Perpetual Gift
- Percy Baxter Charitable Trust
- Perpetual Trustee Company Limited
- Provincial Home Loans
- Rosemary Hardham & Associates
- Run Melbourne runners for OzChild
- STOPline
- Telstra
- The 59 Club Australia
- The Shannon Company
- William & Bessie Lennox Trust
- Windsor Management Insurance Brokers
- Wishing Tree Christmas Gift Donors

"I've used every opportunity OzChild has offered, because the more tools that you've got on your belt, the better you are and prepared to help the children in your care."

-Jenny- kinship carer, mentor on our kinship advocacy program, member on the Carer Advisory Board to the Department of Health and Human Services



For more information, please contact: OzChild (Children Australia Inc.) PO Box 1312 South Melbourne VIC 3205 T: 03 9695 2200 E: ozchild@ozchild.org.au www.ozchild.org.au Children Australia Inc. ABN: 90 959 928

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Foster Care 1536 Heatherton Road Dandenong VIC 3175 T. (03) 9212 3900

contact us today to find out how you can change a life.

Kinship Care Dandenong Central Level 1, 47 Princes Highway Dandenong VIC 3175 T. (03) 9212 5600

Disability Services 947 Nepean Highway Mornington VIC 3931 T. (03) 5975 7644

Family Support & Foster Care Level 2, 454-472 Nepean Highway Frankston VIC 3199 T. (03) 8796 0000 Education Support 126 Princes Highway Pakenham VIC 3810 T. (03) 5941 7444

School Focused Youth Services PO Box 415 Trafalgar VIC 3823 T. (03) 5633 2868 M. 0481 438 770

Western Region 19 Jamieson Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 T. 1300 361 680 T. 1300 661 790



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