

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

Provided by the following Aboriginal services:



Central Australian
Aboriginal Congress
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION | ICN 7823

**CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN
ABORIGINAL CONGRESS**



**NGAANYATJARRA PITJANTJATJARA YANKUNYTJATJARA
WOMEN'S COUNCIL**



TANGENTYERE COUNCIL

AIM OF FAMILY SERVICES:

To promote the safety, stability and development of vulnerable children, young people and their families, and to build capacity and resilience for children, families and communities.

(Victorian Government Strategic Framework for Family Services 2007)

What do Family Support services provide?

- Information and referral
- Assessment of whole family but with a focus on the needs of children
- Assertive outreach/active engagement
- Goal focused case plan
- Case Management – a coordinating role.
- Practical parenting support.
- Counselling
- Brokerage

Child centred, family focused:

- Recognises the best interests of children are paramount
- The significance of the family in achieving positive outcomes
- “walking alongside families to achieve family goals, building on family strengths.”

- *Who are the funded Family Support Service providers in Central Australia?*
 - *Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (Tyerrtye Arntarnte-Areme TFSS and IFSS)*
 - *Tangentyere Council Incorporated (Ketyeye)*
 - *NPY's Women's Council (Walytjapiti)*

NPYWC Intensive Family Support

- 0-12 years
- Currently able to work with families whilst family is **open to CP** and on **CPMIM**
- Case can remain open following CP closure
- 8-12 families
- Referred via **CCPW**
- **Criteria:** parental neglect identified as a concern; requires open CP; OOHC cases where active reunification occurring; referred to CPMIM; voluntary engagement by family; Indigenous families only
- **Area:** Finke; Docker River; Imanpa; Mutijulu (*to include Alice Springs when families are in for short periods i.e. up to 2 months*). Also cover some communities in SA.
- **Referrals not accepted:** conflict of interest (client staff member); child/ren have been removed and there is no reunification plan

(NB - referral criteria may change to include voluntary IM)

Tangentyere Ketyeye Program

- 0-12 years
- Cases can be open for 12 months with extension negotiated if ongoing support required
- 20 -24 families
- **Referral is directly to service provider**
- **Criteria:** can have open **CP** investigation at referral or during engagement; OOHC case where **active reunification** is occurring; **voluntary** engagement by family
- Able to accept **community referrals**
- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal families accepted.
- **Area:** Alice Springs Town Camps and Urban area.

Congress Intensive Family Support

- Team of 5 including: Team Leader, 2 Caseworkers and 2 Aboriginal Family Support Workers
- 0-12 years
- Able to work with family while there is an **open CP case** and family is on **CPMIM**
- Case is able to remain open after it has been closed by CP
- 12 families
- Referral via Child Protection Strengthening Families Team.
- **Criteria:** parental neglect identified as a concern; requires open CP; referred to CPMIM; voluntary engagement by family; Indigenous and non Indigenous families
- **Area:** Alice Springs
- **Referrals not accepted:** conflict of interest (client staff member); child/ren have been removed and there is no reunification plan

Congress Targeted Family Support

- Team of 8 including: Manager, CCPW, 3 Caseworkers and 3 Aboriginal Family Support workers
- 0-18 years. Will accept antenatal referrals.
- Cases are able to remain open for as long as needed
- Following initial FSNA case is reviewed 3 monthly
- 25-30 families
- **Referral** is via **CCPW** or **community** referrals (Indigenous only)
- **Criteria: CP** cases **prior to an investigation** where **neglect or emotional** abuse has been alleged and is rated at a **child concern level**; both **Indigenous and non Indigenous** children and families
- **Area:** Alice Springs
- **Referrals not accepted** include: when the **risk is too high; physical or sexual abuse**; conflict of interest, client being referred is a staff member; current **open CP** case

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