

Better Futures

for young people on permanent care orders

Better Futures is a program that supports young people transitioning from care. Better Futures gives you an active voice in decisions about your future and provides you with the support you need to reach your goals across housing, study, work, health and wellbeing and community and cultural connections. You can get Better Futures support from 16 up to 21 years of age.

How does it work?

You work one on one with a Better Futures Development Coach who provides direct support, coaching, information and advice.

Your Development Coach will also help you access financial assistance known as flexible funding. Flexible funding is available to help you achieve your goals, support your health and wellbeing needs and connect you to your community.



A Better Futures Development Coach can help you with:

- Finding a place to live or support you to stay in your current housing
- Managing your health and wellbeing, including your mental health
- Engaging with education and learning - staying in school or going to TAFE or university
- Finding a job
- Getting your driver's license
- Connecting with your community through hobbies and activities
- Building healthy relationships
- Connecting you to your culture
- Budgeting and learning other life skills
- Support if you are a parent, including childcare costs, connection with parenting and family support services



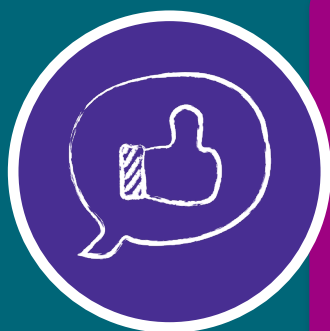
Flexible Funding

Better Futures flexible funding can help get you set up for success by helping to pay for items or activities linked to your goals and interests. There are lots of things this money can be used for such as costs for study, work or healthcare or getting your license. To find out more information or how to access flexible funding, speak to your Better Futures Development Coach today.



Community Connections

You can also access Community Connections support through the Better Futures program. Community Connectors (workers) can help you find mentors and connect you to your community by linking you to new services, activities and opportunities. This could be anything you choose such as starting a new hobby, volunteering or connecting with your culture.



How do I get started?

Permanent Care and Adoptive Families (PCA Families) is the agency that refers young people on permanent care orders to a Better Futures provider.

The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) is the agency that refers Aboriginal young people on permanent care orders to an Aboriginal community-controlled organisation for Better Futures.

You will receive a letter at 15 years and 9 months with information about Better Futures and who to contact to start your referral to the program.

You can speak to PCA Families or VACCA for more information on how to get started.

