

# Home Stretch

## for young people on permanent care orders

Home Stretch provides an accommodation allowance to put towards your housing costs. This money can also be used for other costs that support your transition goals.

You can also get case work support from a Better Futures Development Coach, as well as financial assistance (known as flexible funding) to help you access things such as study, work, and health and wellbeing supports. Young people on permanent care orders can get Home Stretch support from 18, up to 21 years of age.

### How does it work?

The Home Stretch accommodation allowance can help you stay with your carer, if that is the best option, or support you to live independently. If you live independently, the allowance will be managed on your behalf by your Better Futures provider who will work with you to support your living arrangements.

### What else do I need to know?

Young people on permanent care orders and living with their carers immediately prior to their 18th birthday are eligible for Home Stretch.

### How do I get started?

- Permanent Care and Adoptive Families (PCA Families) is the key agency that refers young people on permanent care orders to a Better Futures provider.
- The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) is the key agency that refers Aboriginal young people on permanent care orders to a Better Futures Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO).
- Once PCA Families or VACCA have completed your referral to Better Futures, your Better Futures Development Coach will arrange access to the Home Stretch program for you.

A blue circular icon containing a white megaphone symbol.

**"Home Stretch has really helped me - it has helped me pay my electricity, gas and car rego if I've had trouble with that."**

- Bree (young person)