

About Gunditjmarra

Gunditjmarra Aboriginal Cooperative Ltd is an independent community based not for profit Aboriginal Community Controlled Organization located in Southwest Victoria.

Gunditjmarra provides culturally safe, strength based, social, health and wellbeing programs and services at all life stages- from cradle to grave.

At Gunditjmarra we are committed to:

- ✓ Provide intensive support to clients, carers and families
- ✓ Client centered approach in all interactions
- ✓ Be active and strong advocates on behalf of clients and families
- ✓ Have culture at the centre of everything that we do
- ✓ Link community members in with wrap around service support.



GUNDITJMARA IS A CHILD SAFE ORGANISATION AND IS COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM ABUSE.

GUNDITJMARA PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR CLIENTS EXPERIENCING AND OR NEEDING ASSISTANCE WITH:

- Family Violence
- Health via the Gunditjmarra Health Service
- Homelessness
- Social and Emotional Wellbeing
- Family Support Advocacy
- Justice system
- Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Leaving Care transition
- Playgroup (Kooramook)
- Maternal and Child Health
- In Home Care Support
- Social Engagement Activities



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

BETTER
FUTURES

135 KEPLER ST WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280
P 03 5559 1234 E ADMIN@GUNDITJMARA.ORG.AU
WWW.GUNDITJMARA.ORG.AU

Better Futures was previously known as Leaving Care Support Services.

Better Futures aim is to engage earlier with care leavers, supporting them to have an active voice in their transition planning, and providing culturally appropriate individualised supports both in-care and post-care across a range of life areas including housing, health and wellbeing, education, employment, and community and cultural connections.

The program also includes Culture, health and wellbeing, education, entering the work force, skills for independent living (cooking, budgeting, Centrelink), Social skills, fun activities and appropriate referrals and assistance that aligns with a young persons goals for there future.

Better Futures includes:

- ✓ Direct case work support
- ✓ Information and advice
- ✓ Access to flexible funding

Eligibility

- To be eligible for Better Futures, a young person must be 15 and 9 months, be in out-of-home care on a Care by Secretary Order, a Long-Term Care Order or a Family Reunification Order.
- Young people aged between 18 and 21 are eligible for post-care support through Better Futures.

Referral

All eligible young people in care aged between 16 years and 18 years are referred to their local Better Futures provider.

In care

The Better Futures worker engages proactively with the young person as they are about to turn 16 years and assists them as they transition to independence up until the age of 21 years.

Better Futures worker provide a secondary consultation to the care team – lending expertise to

the transition planning process, identifying goals and actions for inclusion in the 15+ Care and Transition Plan.

The Better Futures worker does not assume lead responsibility for case work support while the young person is subject to a statutory order – support gradually increases as the young person prepares to transition – 6 months prior. In limited circumstances the Better Futures worker will provide direct support to young persons in care.



Referral pathway – if you meet the eligibility or have any questions please call 5559 1234 and ask to speak to our Better Futures worker or Alternatively pop into the at office at 135 Kelper Street Warrnambool to have a Yarn on how we can best support you.

IF THERE ARE IMMEDIATE CONCERNS FOR A PERSON'S LIFE OR SAFETY, OR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED, 000 SHOULD BE CALLED.

If children are at significant and immediate risk of harm, contact the After-Hours Child Protection Emergency Service 13 12 78 (staffed 5pm-9am).