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Service Stream	Families and Young People Services	Category	Intensive Foster and Kinship Care
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This information paper is to be read in conjunction with the Foster and Kinship Care procedures. When a child or young person is placed with kin or a foster carer, please refer to the standard FKC procedures.

Synopsis of Program

The North Coast Intensive Foster and Kinship Care (IFKC) Program is funded for seven (7) young people. The program works with young people and their foster/kinship carers. IFKC offers a wraparound service for both the young person and their carer to help support a stable placement.

Each family is offered the below support:

- Clinical support from IFKC Clinician;
- Support from the Foster and Kinship Care Practitioner (FKCP);
- Support from the Youth and Family Support Worker (YFSW); and
- Educational, vocational and employment support from the Education and Vocation Support Practitioner (EVSP Practitioner).

Mercy Community (MC) works in collaboration with the Department of Child Safety, Seniors, and Disability Services (the Department) and is guided by the Child Protection Act 1999.

Referral and Welcome

Intensive Program Referral

Referrals will be generated by the Department and will be discussed with the Program Manager to determine if it is a suitable referral. The referring Child Safety Officer will complete the *FS FORM FKC Intensive Program Referral* for MC to consider. Once the referral has been accepted, the MC Clinician will then request to complete a file review at the relevant Child Safety Service Centre. The Clinician will then utilise this information to complete the Therapeutic Support Assessment to guide MC's support and ongoing intervention.

Welcome Letter

Once the referral has been accepted, MC will complete a welcome letter to the family (see *FS TEMP FKC IFKC Welcome Letter North Coast*).

Induction

The IFKC program will induct families into the service after accepting a referral (see *FS PROC FKC Carer Induction*). Carers and Adult Household Members will be required to sign the *FS FORM FKC IFKC Privacy Agreement – Carer and Adult Household Member* at this time. A copy of the MC Privacy brochure and the MC Feedback and Complaints brochure should also be provided at the time of induction.

The IFKC Clinician is responsible for completing the induction with the child or young person (see *FS PROC FKC Child and Young Person Induction*).

Recruitment, Assessment and Approval

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Assessment and Approval

When an approved kinship or foster carer is in this program, please refer to the *FS PROC FKC Carer Assessments and Approval*.

Departmental Documentation

For approved foster or kinship placements, documentation required is outlined within the FKC procedures.

Support and Monitoring

MC's support to families is outlined in the *FS PROC FKC Carer Support and Monitoring*. All carers can access after-hours telephone support by contacting the service "on-call" number. This number will be provided to the family upon induction to the MC program.

Home Visits

Home visit frequency to families will be informed by their assessed support needs. Ultimately, the line manager will determine the frequency required for home visits, in consultation with the allocated worker. Due to the intensity of this program, it is expected that multiple home visits and phone calls during the week will occur.

All home visits are recorded in CMS under the '*Home Visit Record*' tab. All other support and monitoring interactions are recorded under the '*Case Notes*' tab.

Education and Vocation Support

Each young person will be entitled to receiving support from the EVSP Practitioner. This may include:

- One on one education assistance;
- Support within current education facility (re-engagement to schooling);
- Education advocacy; and
- Vocation support (resume, job hunting, TAFE enrolment).

The following documentation is required for educational and vocational support:

- *FS FORM FKC IFKC Education and Vocation Support Referral*;
- *FS FORM FKC IFKC Education and Vocation Support Plan*; and
- *FS FORM FKC IFKC Education and Vocation Support Exit Summary*.

Training and Development

MC workers will be able to provide families with training and development opportunities via phone calls, emails, face to face visits or invitation to group trainings. Families may also be referred to external services as required.

Assessment and Planning

Support and Intervention Planning

The clinician is responsible for completing the necessary clinical documentation to guide the intervention for the family. The below forms are required:

- Therapeutic Support Assessment (within first four (4) weeks of accepting referral, and six (6) monthly thereafter);

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- Assessment and Intervention Plan (within first four (4) weeks of accepting referral, and three (3) monthly (as a minimum requirement) thereafter); and
- Positive Behaviour Intervention Support Plan (within first four (4) weeks of accepting referral, and three (3) monthly (as a minimum requirement) thereafter).

Case Plan Coordination (CPC) Meetings

MC is responsible for organising six (6) weekly CPC Meetings for the IFKC program with relevant stakeholders. This consists of the MC team, and relevant CSO/TL to review the progress of the intervention and set goals for the family and stakeholders to achieve in the next six (6) weeks.

Incident Reporting

Incident reporting will continue as per the usual FKC policies and procedures.

Exit and Farewell

Through collaboration and discussion with the Department, it may be deemed an IFKC case is closed. If it is decided for MC's support to cease, the *FS FORM FKC IFKC Exit Report* will be completed and the child/young person file will be closed on CMS as per the *FS PROC FKC Child Exit and Placement Closure*.

Related Documents
FS PROC Carer Assessments and Approval FS PROC FKC Carer Induction FS PROC FKC Carer Support and Monitoring FS PROC FKC Child and Young Person Induction FS PROC FKC Child Exit and Placement Closure FS FORM FKC IFKC Exit Report FS FORM FKC Intensive Program Referral FS FORM FKC IFKC Privacy Agreement – Carer or Adult Household Member FS FORM FKC IFKC Education and Vocation Support Exit Summary FS FORM FKC IFKC Education and Vocation Support Referral FS FORM FKC IFKC Education and Vocation Support Plan FS TEMP FKC IFKC Welcome Letter North Coast MC Privacy Brochure MC Feedback and Complaints Brochure

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