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# **PORT STEPHENS CHILD & FAMILY NETWORK SERVICES DIRECTORY**

**“Growing local  
networks to promote  
best practice in  
strengthening  
families and  
keeping children  
safe.”**

**2013**

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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Ageing, Disability and Home Care- ADHC</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Intake: 02 49463722; Reception: 02 49463600;
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	As above
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:service@facs.nsw.gov.au">service@facs.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Statewide. Hunter Offices in Newcastle, Maitland and Central Coast
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au">www.facs.nsw.gov.au</a> ; <a href="http://www.adhc.nsw.gov.au">www.adhc.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) is part of the <a href="#">Department of Family and Community Services</a>. The aim of the Department is to provide better and more integrated services for vulnerable client groups in NSW.</p> <p>ADHC is responsible for providing services and support to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• older people</li> <li>• people with a disability</li> <li>• their families and carers.</li> </ul> <p>We employ more than 13,000 staff and around 80 per cent of our staff work directly with our clients.</p> <p>We are committed to ensuring that our clients are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• valued</li> <li>• lead independent lives</li> <li>• have the opportunity to participate fully in community life.</li> </ul> <p>We work in partnership with many other organisations to deliver the best possible services to our clients. Our stakeholders include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• older people, people with a disability, their families and carers</li> <li>• 900 non-government and local government service providers that we fund to deliver services on our behalf</li> <li>• non-government organisations</li> <li>• local, State and Commonwealth government agencies</li> <li>• peak bodies and industry groups representing older people, people with a disability and their carers</li> <li>• community agencies and organisations</li> <li>• regulatory bodies.</li> </ul> <p>Our five core values guide our actions with each other, clients, service providers and other agencies. They form the basis of all business relationships, decisions and actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Client focus</b> – client need is the rationale for our activities</li> <li>• <b>Equity</b> - equitable and accessible services within available resources</li> <li>• <b>Integrity</b> – honesty, openness and accountability in dealing with others</li> <li>• <b>Performance</b> – striving for excellence and continuous improvement</li> <li>• <b>Valuing people</b> – recognising our people</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Benevolent Society</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Brighter Futures</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Debbie Stamp
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	4983 3113 or 0420 959 002
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:debbie.stamp@benevolent.org.au">debbie.stamp@benevolent.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Raymond Terrace
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>The Brighter Futures Program provides services and targeted support for children aged 0-8 years and their families as they address challenges that might otherwise place children or families at risk.</p> <p>The aim of the program are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage children's healthy development and resilience</li> <li>• Build strong relationships between children and their families, and families &amp; their communities.</li> <li>• Build parenting and assist parents to address the development and psycho-social needs of their children</li> <li>• Increase children's safety and prevent problems from escalating</li> </ul> <p>The Brighter Futures team develops a partnership with each family and works closely with them to identify their needs and goals.</p> <p>We seek to build on their strengths and interests and support them to make positive changes for themselves and their children.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	Intake is closed at the moment but should re-open mid June. You can contact the FRS Number to be put on the waiting list Ph: 1300 006 480

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Birubi Point Community Pre School Inc.</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Ruth Diemar
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	4982 1899
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:birubipreschool@bigpond.com">birubipreschool@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Multipurpose Centre Fisherman's Bay Road Anna Bay NSW 2316</b>
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.birubipreschool@bigpond.com.au">www.birubipreschool@bigpond.com.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Established for 25 years. We provided high quality care and education for children aged 3-5 years. Our experienced and dedicated staff provide a stimulating and challenging environment appropriate to the needs of the individual child through play and discovery.</p> <p>We have a strong commitment to working together with families to provide the best outcome for children in the years before school.</p> <p>Hours: Monday to Friday 9.15am - 3.15pm</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Bright Horizons Australia Childcare</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Kim Croese, Director
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	4983 1609
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:raymondterrace@bhchildcare.com.au">raymondterrace@bhchildcare.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	89 Benjamin Lee Drive, Raymond Terrace
<b>Web Address</b>	
<b>Details of service provided</b>	Opening Hours are 8.00am - 4.00pm
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Carer Assist</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Caitlin Spiller (for Port Stephens Area)
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	49689268
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:caitlin@carerassist.org.au">caitlin@carerassist.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	5/161 Maitland Rd, Mayfield
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.carerassist.org.au">www.carerassist.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Carer Assist is a service of the Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW inc. and is part of the NSW Family and Carers Mental Health Program funded through the NSW Health Department, Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office.</p> <p>We provide education and training, individual support, information and advocacy to the carers (family and friends) of people with a mental illness. We also aim to increase awareness of and access to other support services and to work in collaboration with Government and non government services.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	



<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Defence Community Organisation (DCO) Hunter</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Ms Jillian Croft – Area Manager
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	<b>Defence Family Helpline 1800 624 608</b> DCO Hunter telephone 02 4034 6973 Fax 02 4034 6976
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au">DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au</a> DCO Hunter email <a href="mailto:dco.HunterRIMS@defence.gov.au">dco.HunterRIMS@defence.gov.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Building 225 McNamara Drive RAAF Base Williamstown NSW 2314
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.defence.gov.au/dco">www.defence.gov.au/dco</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>The Defence Community Organisation (DCO) offers a broad range of programs and services for Defence families.</p> <p>We work with Defence families and community organizations and groups to develop projects, ideas and initiatives which build a strong, connected and resilient Defence community.</p> <p>How can we help?</p> <p>The Defence Family Helpline and local teams in each state and territory deliver a variety of support services for:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deployment, absence and relocation,</li> <li>• partner education and employment,</li> <li>• children's education and childcare,</li> <li>• dependants with special needs,</li> <li>• families experiencing crisis and emergency,</li> <li>• Transitioning to civilian life,</li> <li>• Connecting with community groups and organizations and</li> <li>• Setting up a community group or family daycare.</li> </ul> <p>The best way to access these support services, or gain referral to a DCO office is to call the All-hours <b>Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608</b> or <b>Email: <a href="mailto:DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au">DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au</a></b></p> <p><b>Facebook</b> Hunter <a href="http://www.facebook.com/Dco.Hunter">www.facebook.com/Dco.Hunter</a> DCOHQ <a href="http://www.facebook.com/DefenceCommunityOrganisation">www.facebook.com/DefenceCommunityOrganisation</a></p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Department of Education, Communities and Families NSW</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Gan Gan Family Centre (Schools as Community Centres)</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Jacqui Orwell and Liane Saunders
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Phone: 49821767 Mobile: 0477450512 Fax: 49822371
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Jacqueline.Orwell@det.nsw.edu.au">Jacqueline.Orwell@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Anna Bay Public School 191 Gan Gan Road Anna Bay NSW 2316
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Supporting families with children 0-8 years of age across the Tomaree Peninsula.</p> <p>Aiming to provide opportunities where parents and carers can connect with local families, services and networks both formally and informally. To encourage positive parenting practises. To support caregivers in raising healthy, and happy children. Focus on making the Centre a significant space for local community activities.</p> <p><b>Regular programs, partnerships and services include-</b>  Supported Playgroup PSPPP (Benevolent Society)  Play to Learn Playgroup(GoodStart EarlyLearning)  PlayConnect Anna Bay (Playgroup NSW)  Little Rockets transition to school Playgroup  New Parents Group (on site Child and Family Health Nurse)  Baby Massage  Mums and Bubs Yoga  Natural Parents Group  Toys and Book Library  G4 Community Garden  Active After School Communities Programs  OOSH  TAFE Outreach</p> <p>Childcare provided for educational and craft experiences for adults</p> <p>Information and referrals provided for families</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Department of Human Services</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Indigenous Specialist Officer</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Cass Ward
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0457542191
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Cassandra.ward@humanservices.gov.au">Cassandra.ward@humanservices.gov.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Covers Port Stephens and Hunter Valley
<b>Web Address</b>	
<b>Details of service provided</b>	Cass provides cultural support to the local Department of Human services (DHS) workers. Cass will also meet with elders and Aboriginal groups in the region to discuss upcoming changes with DHS and strengthen the connection between the community and local agencies.
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>EDuCARE Carer Support Service (HNELHD)</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>EDuCARE Carer Support Service</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Kathy Jones
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	(02) 4921 4895
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Educare-Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au">Educare-Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, West Wing, Rankin Park Centre, Lookout Road NEW LAMBTON NSW 2305
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/educare_support_service">http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/educare_support_service</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>EDuCARE Carer Support Service is a part of the Hunter New England Local Health District Carer Support Program it is a non-profit organisation whose overall aim is to provide education and support to Family Carers regardless of age within the Hunter Region. Carers can be parents, family members including siblings, friends and neighbours, who may care for a few hours, a week or all day every day. They provide support to a person with a disability, or a chronic medical condition, mental health related issue, drug and alcohol or is frail aged.</p> <p>For adult Carers we provide education via 3 Week Information Sessions, Parent/Carer Information Sessions, Workshops, Carer EXPO and Carers Week activities.</p> <p>As part of this Service we also have our i-care Young Carer Program for 8 – 25 years this Program provides Young Carers a safe forum to validate their lived experiences; explore their strengths and weaknesses; increase their self-esteem; encourage friendships; provide respite from their caring role; and to have some fun and enjoy being a child. This is provided through 3 day Camps, Workshops and Peer Support Groups.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Family Action Centre</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Hunter Outreach Project</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Kerri Bird
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	49218685 / 0447611724
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Kerri.bird@newcastle.edu.au">Kerri.bird@newcastle.edu.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	University of Newcastle
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/fac">www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/fac</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p><b>Family Support</b></p> <p>Experienced family workers can visit in their home or at a place of their choosing providing information, case planning, support, encouragement and referral as needed to assist families to reach their desired goals. This service is also available to young parents.</p> <p><b>Parenting Programs</b></p> <p>Parenting programs are delivered every school term. These programs provide parents with an opportunity to meet others and build on skills, making parenting more enjoyable.</p> <p>These programs include  123 Magic and Emotion Coaching  Group Triple P and Triple P Selected Seminar Series  Parenting the Growing Child ( 5 to 12 yrs)  Succeed with your Teens  Creating emotionally Resilient Families</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Family InSight</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Volunteer Home Visiting Service (VHVS)</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Debbie Thompson
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	4961 0700 Mobile: 0409 466 963
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:debbie@familyinsight.org.au">debbie@familyinsight.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Unit19-20, 54 Clyde Street, Hamilton North
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.Familyinsight.org.au">www.Familyinsight.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>The families we work with through (VHVS) are generally affected by social isolation and may have one other vulnerability including a child or adult with a disability, single, young or multiple birth parents, families receiving support for post natal depression or other low level mental illness.</p> <p>VHVS involve the recruitment of volunteers from the local community, to provide informal emotional and social support to new parents, particularly those who have limited social networks. Volunteers are trained in parenting issues and key milestones of early childhood development and visit families in their homes once a week for 2 hours.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Referral must come to us through a health service such as a Child and Family Health Nurse, GP, Aboriginal health service etc.</p> <p>Feel free to contact us if you require assistance or information on getting a referral for our service.</p>

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Family Referral Service</b>
<b>Name of Role</b>	<b>Community Capacity Builder</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Mace Topperwien
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	1300 006 480
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:macet@bensoc.org.au">macet@bensoc.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Hunter Central Coast

### **Family Referral Service, Hunter and Central Coast**

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The Family Referral Service is an early intervention service initiative funded by the NSW Government as part of the Keep Them Safe Action Plan. The Hunter Central Coast Family Referral Service is implemented through The Benevolent Society, located in Charlestown and Watanobbi.

The role of the FRS is to assist vulnerable children, young people and families who do not meet the statutory threshold of "risk of significant harm" to access specific and appropriate support services in their local area. The intent is to prevent a difficult situation that a family, young person or child may be experiencing from escalating to a crisis requiring a statutory response from the child protection system.

The FRS provides services to both the agencies supporting families in need and directly to the families in need themselves. The FRS will

- Facilitate and improve access to services for vulnerable and disadvantaged children and families by providing culturally appropriate information, support and advocacy
- Provide face to face assessment and referrals via community locations within the region as well as providing telephone referrals
- Provide referrals to Indigenous specific services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families where appropriate and possible
- work with service providers in the region to identify unmet needs and report on local service supply issues
- work towards developing a stronger regional network of non-government, government and individual service providers who can meet the needs of families
- provide feedback pathways for callers and services as part of quality improvement processes at both a service and system level

Referrals are managed via the telephone service. More complex referrals (for example where there are complex or multiple support needs, or a family has entered and exited services multiple times) are followed up by FRS outreach workers. FRS outreach workers are based across the region and are available for face to face appointments in the community. They work closely with families to support their accessing services for up to six weeks.

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Firstchance Inc</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Nyiiirun Manhaliyn Program</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Ruth Davies
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0401041456
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:ruth.davies@newcastle.edu.au">ruth.davies@newcastle.edu.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Port Stephens
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.firstchance.org.au">www.firstchance.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Funding aims to link Aboriginal children aged 0-5years who have developmental concerns into any mainstream or early intervention service as needed.</p> <p>Project can brokerage developmental assessments/ OT assessments/ Speech assessments as well as provide short term support for a child to commence at an early childhood service until the service themselves can access their own funding.</p> <p>Also assist with transition to school / supporting services to include children with additional needs.</p> <p>Referral is by email and or phone followed by a home visit to meet and find out strengths and needs of family.</p> <p>Also able to run a variety of parenting courses including:  Circle of security  Hanen You Make the Difference – focusing on language development in young children  Tuning into Kids – emotion coaching</p>
<b>Notes</b>	



<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Foster Care Association NSW Inc.</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Uniting foster carers and peer support</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Patray Moncacha
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	4987 1847
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@fcansw.org.au">admin@fcansw.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Head office: P O Box 895 Raymond Terrace
<b>Web Address</b>	www.fcansw.org.au
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p><b>MISSION C.A.S.E</b></p> <p><b>CARERS UNITE-</b> For all NSW foster carers to unite into a powerful collective voice.</p> <p><b>ADVOCATE-</b> To advocate on behalf of foster carers &amp; their families, &amp; to form strong working partnerships with government &amp; non-government organisations in support of a quality OOHC system.</p> <p><b>SUPPORT-</b> To provide peer support to foster carers, &amp; to assist them to achieve the best possible outcomes for their foster children &amp; families.</p> <p><b>EDUCATE-</b> To educate foster carers &amp; raise awareness in the general public of the vital role of foster carers.</p> <p>To provide <b>advocacy, support &amp; information</b> to carers, that ensures they continue to receive the best support from their NGOs, allowing each child in care to achieve their full potential.</p> <p>FCANSW welcomes &amp; supports a culturally diverse community of foster carers who come from all different backgrounds &amp; offer a wealth of experience.</p> <p><b>What unites us, is the common goal we have in raising this next generation to reach their full potential.</b></p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Grandparents As Parents Service (GAPS)</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Heather Barbour - Temporary Co-ordinator (Claire Bell - Co ordinator on sick leave 02 49 831880)
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	02 49 871757
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:hb311044@bigpond.com.au">hb311044@bigpond.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Raymond Terrace
<b>Web Address</b>	
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>We are a voluntary support group for parents or other kin raising non birth children - mostly grandparents raising grandchildren or great grandchildren.</p> <p>We meet in Raymond Terrace St John's Anglican Church Parish Ministry Centre at 10.30 each Friday in school terms and we usually have a family orientated outing during holiday periods.</p> <p>We are most definitely non-denominational, though GAPS is a Samaritans supported group.</p> <p>After a short meeting - often with a guest speaker - we have a time of shared fellowship and hospitality in which the grandparents share information and survival tips or ask for help with a challenge they are facing. We connect the carers with the relevant support service they need where possible and also offer service advice for the children they have in their care. Often the children have a range of problems through neglect, abuse or in womb contact with addictive substances.</p> <p>Sometimes we have a pamper session for the grandparents and a range of fun activities for them to enjoy. Many have lost contact with friends happily enjoying their retirement and also family sometimes are resentful of them taking on the carer role, so the social contact is important as is the sharing of services or tips that have worked for them.</p> <p>They also share outgrown clothing and equipment. We apply for grants which enable us to offer better services and shared outings such as trips to the Hunter Valley Gardens Christmas Lights, Dizzyland and the Reptile Park.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Human Pattern Recognition</b> (soon to become the Junior Leaders Foundation)
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>People Skills and People Reading Development</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Alan Stevens
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0425308866
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:alan@alanstevens.com.au">alan@alanstevens.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	6, 1 Queen Street, Cooks Hill, NSW
<b>Web Address</b>	alanstevens.com.au
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Professional Development People Skills and People Reading programs for teachers and community organisations.</p> <p>Career selection and coaching programs for high school students and mature age job seekers</p> <p>--- More information provided on request ---</p> <p>Please note that all programs are designed around the particular situation and clients present needs</p>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Please note that all programs are designed around the particular situation and clients present needs</p> <p>--- More information provided on request ---</p>

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Hunter New England Health</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Kaleidoscope Speech Pathology Services</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Team Leader
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Team Leader ph: 49 257 800 Referral Information Centre (RIC) ph: 49 242 590.
<b>Email address</b>	
<b>Location</b>	7 sites across Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and Port Stephens. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westlakes Community Health Centre</li> <li>• Eastlakes Community Health Centre</li> <li>• Raymond Terrace Community Health Centre</li> <li>• Nelson Bay Community Health Centre</li> <li>• Belmont Child &amp; Family Health Centre</li> <li>• 621 Hunter St Newcastle</li> <li>• Western Newcastle Community Health Centre</li> </ul>
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.kaleidoscope.org.au/site/community-speech">http://www.kaleidoscope.org.au/site/community-speech</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The community Speech Pathology team aims to provide efficient and equitable high quality services to children and their families.</li> <li>• Children must meet referral criteria for this service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Age: 0-18yrs (or at school)</li> <li>○ Location: Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens LGAs</li> <li>○ Cognitive status: Normal or mild cognitive impairment</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Clients are referred to Community Based Speech Pathology Services via the Referral Information Centre (RIC) ph: 49 242 590.</li> <li>• Children 5 years and under may receive a screening appointment within 8 weeks of the referral.</li> <li>• Children at school will be seen at their closest centre when they reach the top of the waiting list.</li> <li>• Children aged up to year 2 of school may receive up to 12 appointments.</li> <li>• School aged children in year 3 and above may receive up to 4 appointments</li> <li>• The speech pathologist will discuss with you the number of appointments your child may need.</li> <li>• When your child has finished their appointments, you may be able to make another referral to this service.</li> <li>• Your child's ability to access Speech Pathology services may change during their appointments. For example, if your child is diagnosed with a moderate or severe intellectual impairment, then they will not be eligible for re-referral to this service.</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Hunter New England Health</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Young Parents Network</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Katelyn Lynch
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	49246550
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:katelyn.lynch@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au">katelyn.lynch@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Office in Wallsend, supporting families in Maitland and Port Stephens LGAs
<b>Web Address</b>	N/A
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>YPN supports young people under 25, who are pregnant and/or parenting. We offer home visiting, parenting support, general counselling and information and referral.</p> <p>We also run groups for young parents at various times and locations.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Interrelate Family Centres</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Matt Stubbs: Area Manager
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	M: 0488 051 849 (Matt's Mobile) P: (02) 40162566 (Interrelate Office no.)
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:matthew.stubbs@interrelate.org.au">matthew.stubbs@interrelate.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	495 Hunter Street, Newcastle
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.interrelate.org.au">www.interrelate.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Family Relationships Service Provider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family Dispute Resolution (mediation)</li> <li>2. Individual, couples, family counselling services</li> <li>3. Relationship education programs, for example, Parents not Partners, Positive Parenting, Partners in Depression (for carers), Being a Grandparent</li> </ol>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Irrawang Public School</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Nancye Farley - Relieving Principal
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	<u>02 4987 2403</u>
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:nancye.farley@det.nse.edu.au">nancye.farley@det.nse.edu.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Geer St Raymond Terrace
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.irrawang-p.schools.nsw.edu.au">www.irrawang-p.schools.nsw.edu.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Irrawang Public School is located in Geer St Raymond Terrace. Irrawang School offers a unique educational setting featuring a school community centre, Thou-Walla, a preschool, 3 Special Education classes and primary classes K-6.</p> <p>Irrawang Public School is a learning community that has a proud history of providing quality education and a commitment to life-long learning in an ever changing world.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Juvenile Justice</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Bede Humphries for Nelson Bay; Carl Taylor for Raymond Terrace to Karuah;
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Bede 49028613 Carl 49996208
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Bede.humphries@djj.nsw.gov.au">Bede.humphries@djj.nsw.gov.au</a> <a href="mailto:carl.taylor@djj.nsw.gov.au">carl.taylor@djj.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Bede – Charlestown; Carl - Maitland / Raymond Terrace;
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Juvenile Justice work with young persons between the age of 12-18 years and ONLY if they have a Court Mandate.</p> <p>Our service also provides Counsellors. Psychologist, and programs such as. Our Journey To Respect (Aboriginal Based) Dthina Yuwali AOD program for Aboriginal Clients. Community Service Program, ISP Intensive Support Program for families which is voluntary. AOD programs and Counselling. Love Bites, etc etc, however we also seek optional educational programs within the community.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	



<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Karingal Preschool Nelson Bay Inc.</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Karingal Preschool</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Adelaide Rombouts
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	02 49812172
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:karingalnelsonbay@yahoo.com.au">karingalnelsonbay@yahoo.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	14 Gowrie Ave, Nelson Bay NSW 2315
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.karingalpreschool.com.au">www.karingalpreschool.com.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Karingal preschool provides early childhood education for children aged 3 to under 6 years. We are closed during Public and school holidays.</p> <p>Our educational program is based on The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia. This is Australia's first national Early Years Learning Framework for early childhood educators. The aim of this document is to extend and enrich children's learning from birth to five years and through the transition to school.</p> <p>The EYLF does have five main outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The children have a strong sense of identity</li> <li>2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world</li> <li>3. Children have a strong sense of wellbeing</li> <li>4. Children are confident and involved learners and Children are effective communicators</li> </ol> <p>The unique strengths and interests of each child are taking into consideration while staff observe the children and prepare the environment based on these observations. It is our aim to foster the child's natural curiosity and motivation to learn. Experiences are mainly child-initiated, or self selected; that is children are able to choose from a range of experiences and follow their own interests, thus developing autonomy and independence within the child.</p> <p>The staff at Karingal consist of a team of dedicated and enthusiastic Educators. Teamwork plays an important role in our aim to provide a stimulating and supportive educational environment for your child. We are extremely fortunate at Karingal to have all qualified and experienced staff that recognise the importance of continuing and on-going training to become more knowledgeable and to absorb and implement new developments within Early Childhood Education.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	Parents can visit the preschool any time to obtain program information and to place their child on the waiting list. Enrolment is based on application date and priority of access guidelines.

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Karuah Preschool Association Inc.</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	
<b>Contact person</b>	Director – Sonya Laird
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Phone: 49975670 Fax: 49870123
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:karuahpreschool@bigpond.com">karuahpreschool@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Location</b>	Engel Avenue, Karuah 2324
<b>Web Address</b>	
<b>Details of service provided</b>	
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>KU Peninsula Preschool</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	
<b>Contact person</b>	Director – Mark Taylor
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	4982 3398
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:ku.peninsula@ku.com.au">ku.peninsula@ku.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	60 Pershing Place Tanilba Bay 2319
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.ku.com.au">www.ku.com.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>At KU Peninsula we are committed to providing children with an educational program that caters to their individual needs and interests.</p> <p>Our program is structured so that children can develop at their own pace and ability, and are able to take what they need from each learning experience.</p> <p>We have an attractive natural environment with a large outdoor play area and all-weather veranda where children are able to play, explore and experience new learning opportunities.</p> <p>Our team of experienced and caring staff are dedicated to delivering a high quality preschool program and strive to provide an environment that encourages children to reach their potential in all areas of development.</p> <p>We work closely with families and the community to ensure children are empowered and seen as competent and capable individuals.</p> <p>We encourage you to visit the centre at any time or contact the Director, Mark Taylor, to discuss enrolling your child or placing them on the centre's waiting list.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Operating Hours</p> <p>Monday to Friday 9am to 3.30pm, Extended hours available (8.30am to 9am or 3.00 to 3.30pm) Additional fees apply</p>

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Northern Settlement Services Limited</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	
<b>Contact person</b>	Rose Oku
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Office: 49693399 Mobile: 0403450508
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:rose@nsservices.com.au">rose@nsservices.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	8 Chaucer Street Hamilton
<b>Web Address</b>	
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessing Migrant Communities and Social Groups</li> <li>• Information and Referral to Appropriate Services</li> <li>• Filling in Forms and Writing Letters</li> <li>• Understanding letters and Letters and written Correspondence</li> <li>• Budgeting</li> <li>• English Classes</li> <li>• Group Information Session</li> <li>• Advocacy</li> <li>• Networking</li> <li>• Outreach</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	

Name of Organisation	<b>Nova Women's Accommodation &amp; Support Service</b>
Name of Project	<b>Private Rental Brokerage Project</b>
Contact person	<b>Linda Locking</b> , Mobile: 0431 340 676, <a href="mailto:l.locking@novawaas.org.au">l.locking@novawaas.org.au</a> - Port Stephens, West Lake Macquarie, Dungog. <b>Fennis Merkouris</b> , Mobile: 0411 215 228, <a href="mailto:f.merkouris@novawaas.org.au">f.merkouris@novawaas.org.au</a> - Muswellbrook, Cessnock, Singleton.
BEST contact number(s)	0431340676
Location	Port Stephens, Dungog, West Lake Macquarie
Details of service provided	<p>NOVA Women's Accommodation and Support Service have identified challenges in assisting clients in sourcing private rental properties in the Upper Hunter, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Cessnock, Port Stephens, Dungog, and West Lake Macquarie areas. Many of these clients are often eligible for products to support them in a private tenancy including HIR brokerage and the Start Safely Subsidy but need further assistance to secure a property in a tight market, may not have personal resources to negotiate with agents and navigate the private rental system. Private Rental Brokerage Project (PRBP) is linked with the Hunter Integrated Response to Homelessness and Domestic Violence Project (HIR) for a six month trial period to support agencies in these areas and make a difference to women and children lives to move forward with security of housing.</p> <p>We Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Assist clients in becoming "ready" to rent in the private market.</li> <li>❖ Support clients in the proper planning of documents required to apply for a private rental.</li> <li>❖ Assist clients to source properties for inspection and provide advice of the suitability of available properties.</li> <li>❖ Help clients with the preparation of applications for Housing Pathways private rental products such as bond loans, advance rent and tenancy guarantees.</li> <li>❖ Encourage attendance to Rent It Keep It courses.</li> <li>❖ Advocate on behalf of clients to real estate agents.</li> <li>❖ Provide assistance such as transport to client in attending viewings of properties and sign ups with real estate agents.</li> <li>❖ Provide advice and referrals to appropriate support services including services providing tenancy advice.</li> <li>❖ Give support when applying for the Start Safely Subsidy through Housing NSW.</li> <li>❖ <b>Eligibility</b></li> <li>❖ Approved by Housing for Start Safely Subsidy; and</li> <li>❖ Is escaping Domestic Violence</li> <li>❖ Has a service provider able to develop and manage a case plan</li> <li>❖ Be homeless or at risk of homelessness</li> </ul>
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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Port Stephens Council</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Port Stephens Children's Services</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Lynette Fitz Henry
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	49800301
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:lynette.fitzhenry@portstephens.nsw.gov.au">lynette.fitzhenry@portstephens.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	57-59 Port Stephens St , Raymond Terrace
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au">www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Star Family Day Care</li> <li>• Raymond Terrace Before and After School Care</li> <li>• Raymond Terrace Vacation Care</li> <li>• Medowie Before and After School Care</li> <li>• Medowie Vacation Care</li> <li>• Medowie Children's Centre</li> <li>• Port Stephens Activity Van</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Port Stephens Family Support Service</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Tilligerry Family Network</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Lyn Martin
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	49845298 0407940771
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:lynmay@psfss.org.au">lynmay@psfss.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Mallabula Community Centre
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.psfss.org.au">www.psfss.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	Tilligerry Family Network is an outreach C4C project of Port Stephens Family Support Service. Our target group is disadvantaged families with children, birth – 12 years of age. The project provides child and family counselling, parenting and support groups, supported playgroup and after school groups for children. All services are free and all adult groups provide a free children's group on site. See our website for more details and referral pathways.
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Port Stephens Family Support Service</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Communities for Children (Raymond Terrace, Karuah and Tilligerry)</b> <b>Early Intervention Placement Prevention (whole Port Stephens)</b> <b>Ba-ra Boolarng Aboriginal Cultural Program</b> <b>PACE – Aboriginal Parent Engagement with Education (til end December 2013)</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Sue Pollock Lyn Martin (Tilligerry Programs)
<b>BEST contact number</b>	0249874674
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@psfss.org.au">admin@psfss.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	3-5 Phillip Road, Raymond Terrace, and Mallabula Hall, Mallabula
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.psfss.org.au">www.psfss.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Service provision for families with children 0 -12years: (All services are free with the exception of Kindy Gym which is currently \$4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counselling/casework for families and/or children</li> <li>• Parenting programs (Tuning in to Kids, Circle of Security, Parent Groups)</li> <li>• Young Parent Group – run by HNEH Social Worker, PSFSS Early Childhood teacher and RTNC Youth Options Project</li> <li>• Playtime Playgroups (facilitated by early childhood teachers and a child and family counsellor and include kindy gym and mums and bubs swimming, Koori Playgroup –run by Awabakal)</li> <li>• Children's Groups and Programs (Protective Behaviours, Homework Clubs, Self Esteem, Behavioural)</li> <li>• Aboriginal Cultural Programs (Dance &amp; Culture Groups, Me and My Mob in-school program)</li> <li>• Domestic Violence Support (Individual and Not in my House Group Program)</li> <li>• Legal Appointments</li> <li>• Camps</li> <li>• Aboriginal Traineeships</li> <li>• Outreach Playgroup – if you know of a particular area where families are struggling but not connected to a service we can run a playgroup in that street with the purpose of connecting families with a service. (Only available in Raymond Terrace, Karuah and Tilligerry)</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Child and family counselling/casework usually have a waiting list – referrals are prioritised according to need. Families can however access most groups while they are waiting.</p> <p>We encourage referrals to playgroups as a 'soft entry'. Parents/carers can speak to the family workers (who are social workers or with equivalent qualifications) re: any concerns/issues they are struggling with. They can gain advice from the Early Childhood teachers re: their child's development. The early childhood program is based on the Early Learning Framework. Other services will come into the playgroup as per need or as part of the program (eg Speech, First Chance, Dental etc)</p> <p>Transport and Child care is provided for most groups depending on</p>



	resources but must be booked
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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Raymond Terrace Community Preschool</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Linda Mossman – Nominated Supervisor
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	02 4987 2515
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:rtcpreschool@hunterlink.net.au">rtcpreschool@hunterlink.net.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	3 Sketchley Street Raymond Terrace
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.raymondterracepreschool.org.au">www.raymondterracepreschool.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Preschool education for children aged 3 to 5 years.  Two services available :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extended Hours Preschool: 8am-4pm, 48 weeks of the year (Child Care Benefit available)</li> <li>• Preschool: 9am-3pm, open school terms only (reduced fees available for Health Care Card holders)</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Salamander Child Care Centre</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Early Childhood Education and Nurturing. (Children 8 weeks to 6 years.)</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Mandy Moore
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0249820777
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:sccc@salamanderchildcarecentre.com">sccc@salamanderchildcarecentre.com</a>
<b>Location</b>	155 Salamander Way Salamander Bay NSW 2315
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.salamanderchildcarecentre.com">www.salamanderchildcarecentre.com</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Salamander Child Care Centre provides care and early education to children aged between 0-5 years. Salamander Child Care Centre incorporates the Early Years Framework, the national curriculum for children under 7, into their planning and program.</p> <p>At Salamander Child Care Centre we work with children to develop their awareness and curiosity of the world they live in through interest based projects that incorporate the many languages of learning. Children are encouraged to develop a greater sense of self and are supported to achieve the independence they strive for. To achieve this we encourage children to cooperate, we enhance their self esteem, develop their problem solving skills and encourage their ability to interact with others. Our staff use positive guidance when guiding children's behavior and encourage children to take responsibility for their actions.</p> <p>The many experiences offered to the children allows friendships to develop and opportunity to learn how to manage their own feelings and to be a cooperative learner and member of a community in a supportive environment.</p> <p>The Centre is run on a "not for profit" basis because "children are too precious for profit". We are run by a Management Committee which is comprised of volunteers from families enrolled in the service.</p> <p>The Centre enhances the wonderful surrounds our children are fortunate enough to live in. Our outdoor play and learning area creates a great atmosphere for the children to discover the environment. They can feed the chickens and our rabbit or they might like to plant seeds in the vegetable garden.</p> <p>The Centre operates from Monday to Friday between the hours of 7.30am and 6.00pm exclusive of Public Holidays for 50 weeks of the year. Legally no children can be accepted into the Centre before or after these times. The Centre closes for two weeks and 2 staff development/cleaning days during the Christmas/New Year period. Adequate notice is given on the dates for Centre closure.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Salamander Gumnuts Preschool and Long Day Care Centre</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Margarer Renehan
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0249846846
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@gumnuts.net.au">admin@gumnuts.net.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	55 Salamander Way, Salamander Bay NSW. 2317
<b>Web Address</b>	None
<b>Details of service provided</b>	Long day care and preschool for children aged 2 – 5years. Open from 7.30am until 5.30pm
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Samaritans</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Kinship Care Support</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Karen Lizasoain
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0429 914553
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:klizasoain@samaritans.org.au">klizasoain@samaritans.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Anglican Church Hall, John St, Raymond Terrace
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.samaritans.org.au/services/kinshipcare">www.samaritans.org.au/services/kinshipcare</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Informal support group for kinship carers, (predominantly grandparents), who are primary carers of their grandchildren. Group provides a point of contact for community information – both government and NGO- which may be required by family. Carers have a safe place to debrief their family struggles to others in the same shoes, find relief from social isolation and get a welcome couple of hours respite. Carers with formal legal custody, informal care arrangements, foster care and carers trying to gain access or custody of children –are all welcome.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>This group is one of eleven around the Hunter Region and groups occasionally join in activities for social or training events.</p>

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Samaritans</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Samaritans Reconnect</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Kathryn Manning
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Mobile:0418916868 Office: 49221538
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:kmanning@samaritans.org.au">kmanning@samaritans.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Brunker Road Adamstown, but service the Port Stephens LGA. Based at Sturgeon Street Raymond Terrace Mon & Wed.
<b>Web Address</b>	N/A
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p><b>Reconnect</b> provides support to young people 12-18 years of age and their families that are experiencing hard times. We are a free, confidential, voluntary service that can assist with practical support, counselling, mediation, connection to education/work, group programs and goal setting. Reconnect can meet with young people and their families or with young people one on one in their local area. Reconnect covers the Port Stephens, Cessnock, Maitland, Lake Macquarie and Newcastle LGA's.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Samaritans</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Samaritans Early Intervention Coordination Team (SEICT)</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Tess Ryan and Michelle Norrish – Early Intervention Case Managers
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Tess Ryan – 0418 179 793 Michelle Norrish – 0428 500 723
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:tryan@samaritans.org.au">tryan@samaritans.org.au</a> <a href="mailto:mnorrish@samaritans.org.au">mnorrish@samaritans.org.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Maitland (head office in Cardiff)
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.samaritans.org.au">www.samaritans.org.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>SEICT provides support to families with children 0-8 with a disability, including autism and developmental delay. Families can also receive support prior to a diagnosis being made.</p> <p><b>Program Aims</b> The goals of the SEICT program are to support children with a disability or developmental delay at key life transitions. In doing so, we aim to build the knowledge, skills and capacity of families, schools and early childhood services so that they may continue to care for and support their children.</p> <p>SEICT can provide assessments, therapy and other professional supports. We work with families in a holistic manner, to ensure that all family members have the opportunity to link with any supports and services they may require. It is a free, voluntary program and is driven by the goals and visions of the family.</p> <p><b>Who We Can Work With</b> The team can work with any family, school, early childhood setting or community organisation that is supporting a child aged 0-8 years with a disability or delay. Early Childhood services that may require support for inclusion (not related to a specific child) can also access the program.</p> <p><b>Our Team</b> SEICT is an experienced team of Case Managers, a Psychologist, an Occupational Therapist and a Physiotherapist. SEICT has also developed working partnerships with some of the region's leading Early Intervention Services. There are currently five SEICT offices, located in Cardiff, Toronto, Bateau Bay, Maitland and Singleton.</p> <p><b>Referral Pathways</b> There are three ways to refer to the SEICT program. These are:  ~ Self-referral by a family member  ~ Early Childhood Services, Schools or Community Organisations can refer on behalf of a family, if the family gives permission  ~ Early Childhood Services, Schools or Community Organisations can submit a referral for service support only.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	<p><b>Contact Information</b> Please contact our Project Officer in Cardiff regarding any enquiries or referrals.  E-mail: <a href="mailto:seict@samaritans.org.au">seict@samaritans.org.au</a>  Phone: 02 4903 1700 Fax: 02 49031760  Postal: PO Box 103, Cardiff NSW 2285  <a href="http://www.samaritans.org.au">www.samaritans.org.au</a></p>

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>The Smith Family</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Saver Plus Program</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Cynthia Culhane
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0418 699 646 4927 8385 1300 610 355
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au">cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Covers all Newcastle area
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.anz.com/saverplus">www.anz.com/saverplus</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Saver Plus is a 10-month financial education and matched savings program that assists people to improve their financial education and develop a savings habit for their own or their children's education costs.</p> <p>As part of the program, participants receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one dollar from ANZ in matched savings for every one dollar they save, up to \$500</li> <li>• Free MoneyMinded financial education, and</li> <li>• personal support and guidance from a trusted community organisation.</li> </ul> <p>At the end of the program participants use their matched savings to purchase a wide range of education-related goals such as school uniforms, excursions, computers, text books and extra-curricular activities such as music lessons and sport.</p> <p><b>Benefits of Saver Plus?</b></p> <p>By joining the program participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• receive a financial reward for their saving efforts, up to \$500</li> <li>• acquire new financial skills</li> <li>• improve their ability to save in the long-term, and</li> <li>• increase their financial confidence.</li> </ul> <p><b>How it works</b></p> <p>Participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work with their Saver Plus Worker to identify an educational expense for which they intend to save</li> <li>• open an account with their local ANZ branch and begin making deposits</li> <li>• attend MoneyMinded workshops to improve their financial management skills</li> <li>• continue to make regular deposits into their ANZ Progress Saver</li> </ul>

	<p>account over a 10-month period</p> <p>Once participants reach their savings goal, participants savings are matched dollar for dollar, up to \$500 by ANZ. To be eligible, participants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have a current Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card;</li> <li>- be at least 18 years old;</li> <li>- have some regular income from work (themselves or their partner) including casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal employment;</li> <li>- be a parent or guardian of a child at school OR be attending or returning to vocational education themselves; and</li> <li>- live, work, study or have a child at school in the area where a Saver Plus program is delivered.</li> </ul> <p><b>How to apply</b></p> <p>For further information contact Cynthia Culhane on 4927 8385 or SMS your name and postcode to 1300 610 355 or email <a href="mailto:cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au">cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au</a></p> <p><i>Saver Plus is an initiative of Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, with ANZ providing matched savings for participants.</i></p>
<p><b>Notes</b></p>	



<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>The Smith Family</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Learning For Life</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Sean O'Rourke
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	02 4983 1084 0448 094 558
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Sean.Orouke@thesmithfamily.com.au">Sean.Orouke@thesmithfamily.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Raymond Terrace and Karuah
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.thesmithfamily.com.au">www.thesmithfamily.com.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>The Smith Family, established in 1922 as a welfare-based organisation, is now a national charity helping young Australians in need to get the most out of their education so they can create better futures for themselves.</p> <p>We work in partnership with generous Australians and organisations to unlock educational opportunities for these young people. <i>Learning for Life</i> provides long-term support for young Australians all the way through their schooling years.</p> <p>This approach gives ongoing assistance to disadvantaged students so they can develop vital life skills, stay engaged in their education and have the best opportunity to break the cycle of disadvantage.</p> <p>Through <i>Learning for Life</i>, The Smith Family connects students to sponsors whose financial support helps families afford the cost of their children's essential school items such as uniforms, text books and school excursions.</p> <p><i>Learning for Life</i> Workers in 97 communities across Australia link students to local learning opportunities and also encourage them to make the most of their education through participating in a range of learning support and mentoring programs.</p> <p>The Smith Family's work is evidence-led and strengthened by a network of strong partnerships with corporate and community organisations as well as individual sponsors, donors and volunteers, including the 20,000 members of VIEW Clubs of Australia.</p> <p>Volunteers are the key to the success of our programs and we are always seeking the help of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School staff to liaise with <i>Learning for Life</i> Workers and become program champions</li> <li>• Community members to be volunteers, mentors and tutors in our programs.</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Families need to meet eligibility criteria to engage with the Learning for Life Program:</p> <p><b>General Eligibility Criteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent/carer holds Health Care or Pension Card</li> <li>• Family commitment to ongoing education</li> </ul>

- Child/children attend school regularly
- Willingness to engage in appropriate programs

*NB: Some programs will have more specific eligibility requirements*

All potential new families need to be referred from a government agency or service, a community group or service or any school within the Raymond Terrace & Karuah communities, they cannot self-refer.

Please Note:

Not every referral will result in recruitment to our programs.

Any places available will depend on the family's eligibility criteria, TSF's funding and allocation vacancies at the time of referral.

For more information please contact Sean – Learning For Life Coordinator on 4983 1084 or email [Sean.Orourke@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:Sean.Orourke@thesmithfamily.com.au)

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>The Smith Family</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Communities for Children Raymond Terrace and Karuah</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Project Manager Alison Harwood, Community Development Worker Dianne Green
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	Alison 4983 2604 or 0428 297 048 Dianne 4983 1002 or 0428 903 382
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:alison.harwood@thesmithfamily.com.au">alison.harwood@thesmithfamily.com.au</a> <a href="mailto:dianne.green@thesmithfamily.com.au">dianne.green@thesmithfamily.com.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	C/- Raymond Terrace Public School Cnr Swan and Adelaide Streets P.O. Box 10500 Raymond Terrace NSW 2324
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.thesmithfamily.com.au">www.thesmithfamily.com.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Raymond Terrace and Karuah Communities for Children (CfC) has been providing a range of early intervention and preventions services in Raymond Terrace and Karuah since 2004 to improve outcomes for children from birth to 12 years old and their families living in the community.</p> <p>The Vision of Raymond Terrace and Karuah CfC is 'Raymond Terrace and Karuah are communities where all children and families thrive'.</p> <p>The Community Strategic Plan for Raymond Terrace and Karuah CfC provides the roadmap for the development and implementation of the initiative for the period 2012-2014. [Link to CSP]</p> <p>Demographic Information The Raymond Terrace and Karuah Region CfC initiative operates within the Port Stephens Local Government Area near the Newcastle and Hunter Valley regions of New South Wales.</p> <p>Objectives of Raymond Terrace and Karuah CfC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved physical health and development of children 0-12 years</li> <li>• Enhanced literacy and educational outcomes for children 0-12 years and their parents/carers</li> <li>• Increased parenting skills of vulnerable families through improved access to services and supported parent education and engagement</li> <li>• Child-friendly community providing improved social, educational and physical environments for children 0-12 years and their families</li> <li>• Enhanced intersectorial collaboration through robust referrals and collaborative processes</li> <li>• Improved social and economic participation of vulnerable families impacted by changes to parenting payment eligibility</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Raymond Terrace and Karuah CfC Projects 2012-2014</p> <p>1. Kids Patch Project Community Partner: Family Insight Inc. This project engages children aged 0-12 years and their parents in a range of skill building and educational activities related to food gardens. Children's physical health and development is supported, families are more connected to their community, and adults gain important skills relevant to</p>

their role as parents and within employment. Activities include constructing food gardens at family homes, within schools and at the Raymond Terrace Community Garden. Several exciting community events occur each year, and Kids Patch even has an outdoor wood-fired pizza oven free for community use.

2. Karuah Strong Project

Community Partner: Karuah Pre-School Association Inc.

This project enhances and builds on activities that are working well in the Karuah community for families including Aboriginal families with children 0-12 years. The focus is on child/family healthy nutrition, educational support, parent education training, Aboriginal culture and reducing the barriers to training and employment through collaboration between C4C Community Partners, job service providers and other services.

3. Words on the Street Project

Community Partner: Port Stephens Council

This project provides children and parents with access to high quality early learning experiences in suitable environments through home visits, playgroups, schools and outreach to Aboriginal communities. The focus is on 'stories' and children's books as a way of supporting early childhood development including in relation to language and literacy. Words on the Street also aims to increase access to further training and education of parents of children 0-12 years and community members through supported pathways to adult literacy, life and job skills training in collaboration with other service providers.

4. Family Networks Raymond Terrace and Karuah Project

Community Partner: Port Stephens Family Support Service Inc.



This project works with parents to gain the skills and connections they need to support their parenting skills and access additional services in the community. A range of engaging activities and supported referrals are provided including play groups, parenting programs, family camps and educational workshops. In collaboration with other services the project will work to reduce barriers to employment and training and support connections to education and employment services with a particular focus on Aboriginal parents through traineeships, staff training and development and volunteer training and placements.

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Thou-Walla Family Centre</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Irrawang School as a Community Centre Project</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Gina Ascott-Evans
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	4987 4666 0400 431 657
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:GinaAscott-Evans@det.nsw.edu.au">GinaAscott-Evans@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	Located in the grounds of Irrawang Public School. Servicing the Raymond Terrace and surrounding communities.
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.thou-wall.com.au">www.thou-wall.com.au</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>Thou-Walla Family Centre is a community centre providing programs with a focus on families with children 0-8 years of age, in particular the years before school. Thou-Walla Family Centre is located in the grounds of Irrawang Public School and is situated next door to Irrawang Preschool. The term 'Thou-Walla' derives from the Kattang Language of the Worimi People meaning 'meeting place'. The SaCC provides programs to families within the Irrawang community, wider Raymond Terrace community and the surrounding areas. It is part of the Schools as Community Centre Programs managed by Department of Education and Communities and is funded through Families NSW. The Centre has been in operation since 2004.</p> <p>The SaCC works in partnership with a number of organisations to provide various programs including playgroups, adult education programs, parenting courses, baby massage, parent information sessions and specific community development projects, with a focus on community needs.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	Like us on Facebook for the most up to date information 'Thou-Walla'

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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>The University of Newcastle</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>AIM HIGH</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Kirily Stokes
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	02 4921 6370
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Kirily.Stokes@newcastle.edu.au">Kirily.Stokes@newcastle.edu.au</a>
<b>Location</b>	MCG 24 McMullin Building Callaghan
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/aimhigh">www.newcastle.edu.au/aimhigh</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>The AIM High program is a school based, community focused, outreach program run by the University of Newcastle's Equity and Diversity Unit. The program has been developed with the specific aim of creating and supporting educational aspiration, attainment and access for students and families from low socio-economic backgrounds.</p> <p>The AIM High program provides a series of tailored tertiary education experiences for primary and high school students, their families and their school communities. The tailored experiences are developed with the school and are offered throughout the primary and secondary learning stages. The experiences are delivered on campus, in schools and in the local community. The program uses innovative approaches to demonstrate the links between a students lived experience, classroom learning and career and study options.</p> <p>We are always open to discussing new and innovative ways to reach and communicate the message of further education with students and their families. Feel free to contact us should you have an idea/experience you would like to discuss.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	

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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>UpnAway Career &amp; Life Coaching</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Adolescent Career Direction &amp; Empowerment Program</b></li> <li>• <b>Pursue Your Passion Tour Australia</b></li> </ul>
<b>Contact person</b>	Michelle Lee
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0404 481 091
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:m_lee@upnaway.com">m_lee@upnaway.com</a>
<b>Location</b>	Newcastle & Hunter
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.upnawaylifecoaching.com">www.upnawaylifecoaching.com</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>            	<h3 style="color: #0070C0;">Adolescent Career Direction &amp; Empowerment Program</h3> <p style="color: #E67E22;">A Unique Practical &amp; Fun Program for students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discover more about themselves</b></li> <li>• <b>Strengthen their belief in possibilities</b></li> <li>• <b>Ignite their passion and dreams</b></li> </ul> <p>Students will learn tools to guide them purposefully to the life and career they dream of and they will start taking action right away, as Michelle encourages and supports them to prepare now for what lies ahead in life and career.</p> <p><b>Students will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Find clarity, direction and purpose</b></li> <li>• <b>Identify skills, talents and careers/hobbies to suit</b></li> <li>• <b>Gain a strong awareness and confidence of self</b></li> <li>• <b>Discover, honour and love how unique they truly are</b></li> <li>• <b>Become motivated &amp; empowered towards their goals</b></li> </ul> <p style="color: #E67E22;"><b>Customised group coaching includes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>8 x 1 hour weekly workshops</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Training manual and weekly worksheets</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Continuous email support &amp; 24/7 text/phone support</b></li> </ul> <h3 style="color: #C0392B;">Pursue Your Passion Tour Australia</h3> <p>Kirk Nugent, motivational “People’s Poet” from the US is coming to Australia in 2014 to form a powerful team with Australia’s Alan Stevens, Face Profiler &amp; Human Pattern Recognition Authority and Michelle Lee, Career &amp; Life Passion Coach, to help inspire all school communities to pursue their passion.</p> <p>Bookings are being taken now.</p> <p><a href="http://www.facebook.com/PursueYourPassionAustralia">www.facebook.com/PursueYourPassionAustralia</a></p>

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Name of Organisation	<b>VOCAL – Victims Of Crime Assistance League Inc NSW</b>
Name of Project	<b>Family &amp; Child Safety Unit Victim Support Unit</b>
Contact person	Carol Malam /Melanie Clark /Kerrie Thompson
BEST contact number(s)	T- 02 4961 4755 F- 02 4961 2378
Email address	<a href="mailto:facs1@vocal.org.au">facs1@vocal.org.au</a> or <a href="mailto:facs2@vocal.org.au">facs2@vocal.org.au</a>
Location	47 Hudson Street Hamilton NSW 2303
Web Address	<a href="http://www.vocal.org.au">www.vocal.org.au</a> or <a href="http://www.familyandchildsafety.org.au">www.familyandchildsafety.org.au</a>
Details of service provided	<p>VOCAL was established in 1989. VOCAL supports victims of crime, family, friends and the law – abiding community.</p> <p>VOCAL offers practical, do-able strategies to a broad variety of clients who have been affected by but not limited to: Domestic &amp; Family Violence; Homicide ; Sexual Offences; Child Abuse; Bullying; Harassment; Threats; Assaults; AVO.</p> <p>Supporting Women and children through the Family Law Court system through information and support strategies.</p> <p><b>Providing support to victims of crime and the law- abiding community because we all deserve decent, restorative treatment by society and in the law.</b></p> <p>For many people, trying to protect themselves and their children from family violence and shield them from physical and psychological harm is extremely difficult. The <a href="http://www.vocal.org.au">Victims of Crime Assistance League Inc NSW</a> (VOCAL) has a specialised <b>Family and Child Safety Unit</b>, which was established in 2013 and was made possible by a generous funding grant from 'Perpetual Philanthropic Service'. The Family and Child Safety Unit aims to empower women to understand and manage the challenges that occur, when a child safety issue arises and its links to various processes and systems. We will supply a listening ear, and offer ideas and suitable strategies, referrals, support and court preparation to help women and their children to be safer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support and advocacy in navigating the Family Court system.</li> <li>▪ Information about the Family Court process</li> <li>▪ Safety planning for women and children</li> <li>▪ Help clients understand how to document evidence</li> <li>▪ Referrals to counselling and other support agencies</li> <li>▪ Support with understanding and organising paperwork</li> <li>▪ Court preparation and support</li> </ul>
Notes	<b>Contact Information:</b> <b>Free Service</b> Please ring for an appointment on 02 4961 4755 or



	<p>Call in at VOCAL Cottage  47 Hudson Street  Hamilton NSW 2303  <b>No referral necessary</b></p>
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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Williamtown Preschool Inc</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Michelle Curtin
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	40347642
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:wmpres@bigpond.com">wmpres@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Location</b>	19 Henderson Rd RAAF Base Williamtown
<b>Web Address</b>	<a href="http://www.williamtownpreschool.com">www.williamtownpreschool.com</a>
<b>Details of service provided</b>	Community based preschool servicing Defence force and civilian families
<b>Notes</b>	

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Youyoong Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group</b>
<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Community to Schools Support</b>
<b>Contact person</b>	Rachel Small
<b>BEST contact number(s)</b>	0431 580 086
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:rachelsmall26@hotmail.com">rachelsmall26@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Location</b>	Port Stephens & Dungog Area
<b>Details of service provided</b>	<p>The AECG was established in 1977 primarily because the Aboriginal people were not happy with the way Aboriginal views were not being heard within the Education system.</p> <p>The AECG provides an Aboriginal opinion on the needs &amp; desires of our Aboriginal communities. We are recognised as the principal source of advice regarding ideas, issues and concerns relating to Aboriginal Education and Training.</p> <p>The AECG is an Aboriginal community-based organisation made up of volunteer members who are involved in Junior, Local, Regional and State AECGs throughout NSW.</p> <p>The strength of the AECG depends on the participation of <u>all</u> concerned at the local level in particular. Our aim is to empower our local communities and members through active involvement in Aboriginal Education and Training.</p> <p>History shows that access to Education and Training was denied to Aboriginal people. Through the network of the AECG, Aboriginal people are able to be active in making a change within Education and Training. The AECG strongly believes that real change in Aboriginal Education and Training outcomes can only happen through proper partnerships of <u>all</u> the stakeholders.</p> <p>Junior &amp; Local AECGs are a forum for members from the community to express their ideas, issues and concerns to local schools.</p> <p>The AECG works towards insuring Government policies reflect our cultural heritage. Culture is important to our children no matter where they have come from.</p> <p>The AECG is an Aboriginal organisation but we welcome the participation of <u>all</u> those involved and interested in Aboriginal Education and Training at <u>all</u> levels.</p> <p>The AECGs focus is on all local communities having input into Aboriginal Education and Training at the local level. This will empower our people and contribute to improving outcomes in Aboriginal</p>

	Education and Training.
<b>Notes</b>	Membership is \$2 per year and meetings are held twice a term. If you are interested and would like to be involved please make contact on the details above.