

BRIGHTER FUTURES

— OUTER EAST —

The Brighter Futures Transformation Pilot began 1 July, 2018. The Out of Home Care Funders Group announced they were collectively investing in a two year trial of the framework the Outer Eastern Area Partnership had spent the previous five years building, to change community attitudes and create a new story of achievement and connection for local young people with a care experience.

Over the past 24 months, Brighter Futures has worked to fully realise the value of promoting and engaging the voice of lived experience in service development.

It offered new ways of working and, through this, showed that young people have the capacity to be leaders and equal partners in service design and delivery when they are well supported.

It required commitment from the system as a whole, and - with its three contracted Partners, six Advisory and Governance bodies, eleven Partnering Organisations, seven funding bodies and an extended commitment sector wide - demonstrated a level of cross-sectoral collaboration that was ground breaking.

What became clear was that when cross sector leaders came together and were committed to the outcomes, true impacts were made.

"Two years of trying, testing, and learning how we can connect young people with a care experience to local community members who can help them build their strengths, explore their passions, and achieve their goals has resulted in promising outcomes."

TOGETHER WE HAVE WORKED TO ACHIEVE:

Genuine Community Connections - that have made a difference to the lives of young people. The pilot has supported strong investment in young people by local business and individuals within the community - this continues to gain momentum and OOHHC organisations involved are committed to a lasting change.

A Strong Network - businesses, individuals, community groups, and organisations that value young people with a care experience and have demonstrated this through opportunities for mentorship, work experience and paid employment.

Recognition of Brighter Futures - by businesses, stakeholders and community as a viable, valuable, and replicable model of investing in corporate social responsibility.

An Advantaged Thinking approach - Case Managers, Team Leaders and Organisational Managers were supported to shift their practice and work alongside young people using an Advantaged Thinking approach that focuses on the aspirations and capabilities of young people.

Priming the system for change - The success of the Brighter Futures model and its uptake in the implementation of the Better Futures service shows a sector-wide acknowledgment that the system is ready for change.



"Brighter Futures Outer East brings together people and expertise from different parts of our community to create something that wouldn't be possible working in isolation. This is the magic ingredient we use to create connection and belonging and it's what makes our approach unique"

- MEG BEILKEN, BRIGHTER FUTURES OUTER EAST

The Brighter Futures pilot set a transformation agenda - changing the mindsets about young people transitioning from OoHC, including those who provide the support and for the young people themselves.

It aimed not to be an additional service or program, but to alter existing practice to provide hope and a better future for young people.

Because of its commitment to being driven by youth voice, partner organisations are starting to think about how to embed youth voice within their organisations and creating a broader role for young people with a lived experience.

As we move forward, Brighter Futures partners will maintain our commitment to a shift in attitude and ongoing connection for young people.

"Aiming to transform young peoples' lives, community attitudes, case managers' practice and the broader service system was ambitious!"

- HEIDI TUCKER, CEO LEAD ORGANISATION, ANCHOR

We will continue to work closely with Better Futures implementation teams and Community Connectors across the East to enhance and strengthen the statewide Better Futures approach.

Brighter Futures would like to extend our deep gratitude to the community, partner organisations, governance bodies, and funders for their belief and investment in a future where young people in care can dream and aspire. Without your commitment and ongoing support, the outcomes above and continued relationships with young people would not be possible.



THANK YOU:

Youth Ambassadors and Young People

Individuals, Businesses and Community Groups

Aimee Adventures	Ferntree Gully Community Arts Centre	Round Bird Can't Fly
Alexander Pollock Interiors	Fresh Youth Theatre	Silent Arrow
Apprenticeships Group Australia	Generation Run	Social Change Projects
Army Cadets	Hearth Galleries	StarCorp Textiles
Laniyuk Garcon	Hill Real Estate	The Basin Community House
Belgravia Leisure Knox	HoMIE	The Running Company
Belgravia Leisure Yarra Ranges	Kalinya Communications	Travis Cloke
By Design Holistic Health	Kellie Grant	Tribe Youth
Cardno	Knox Infolink	TurnStyle Records
Chisholm TAFE	Knox Photographic Society	Urban Life
CIRE	National Australia Bank	Vedran
Danny Hoekstra	MEGT	Victoria Legal Aid
Different Journeys	Metro Trains	Yarra Ranges Dungeons and Dragons
EA Games	Misfit Theatre	Your Personal Travel Manager
ECOSS	Outer Eastern LLEN	
Emerging Writers Festival	Outlaws All Stars	
Epic Games	ProKick	

State Government support through Outer Eastern Children and Youth Area Partnership – co-funded and led by DET / DHHS

brighterfutures.net.au

Brighter Futures Transformation Pilot: Partner and Supporting Organisations (Key Partners -OECYAP)

Anchor Inc (lead agency)	Department of Health and Human Services Outer East	Maroondah City Council
Anglicare Victoria	DJR Youth Justice	Swinburne University of Technology
Brotherhood of St Laurence	EACH	The Salvation Army
Community Housing Ltd	Eastern Community Legal Centre	Uniting Vic/Tas
Create Foundation	Inspiro	VACCA
Department of Education and Training	Knox City Council	Victoria Police
Department of Justice and Community Safety	KYM	Whitelion
		Yarra Ranges Council

Brighter Futures Transformation Pilot: Executive

Anthony Raitman	Heidi Tucker	Nicole Columbine
Brenda Ammann	Kayt McGeary	Scott Hawkins
Cathy Keenan	Lauren Gordon	Shaye Chalmers
Darren Youngs	Meg Beilken	
Dylan Langley	Michael Smith	

Brighter Futures Transformation Pilot: Out of Home Care Funders Group

Australian Communities Fund	Gandel Philanthropy	The R.E.Ross trust
Bennelong Foundation	Sidney Myer Fund	
Centre for Excellence	The Jack Brockhoff Foundation	
Equity Trustees		

BRIGHTER  **FUTURES**
— OUTER EAST —