

2007

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ACT YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2004-2008

PROGRESS REPORT

Presented by

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Minister for Children and Young People**

May 2007

THE ACT YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2004-2008

The Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services has lead responsibility for the ACT Young People's Plan, which was launched by the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support, Katy Gallagher, on 11 August 2004.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
<p>Participation Provide opportunities for young people to be engaged in activities and programs that encourage and develop informed decision-making, skills development and leadership abilities. Young people are valuable members of the community and are encouraged to contribute through meaningful participation opportunities.</p>	<p>Priority: Developing approaches to increase the effectiveness of young people's involvement in government advisory and consultative processes.</p>	<p>The Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services (DHCS) through the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support (OCYFS) to extend and expand Youth InterACT, the ACT Government Youth Participation initiative that gives young people the opportunity to have a say in government decision making.</p>	<p>Work is currently being undertaken to re-design and re-brand the Youth InterACT website. The focus will be on a more user friendly, interactive site, including pod casting.</p> <p>A redevelopment of the Youth Council has occurred. Nominations for new Council members were sought in March-April 2007. The new Council membership will reflect a greater diversity of young people including, age, gender and interests.</p> <p>Further the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) will be taking a more proactive role in broadening its exposure to the community and Government through holding of issued based forums and community meetings.</p> <p>An evaluation of the Youth Services Program is progressing. An external consultant will oversee the process. This evaluation will consider models of best practice for the effective involvement of young people in service provision.</p> <p>All service funding agreements with youth services require agencies to provide evidence of collaborative service delivery that respond to the needs of young people.</p>

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		<p>DHCS to implement the National Youth Participation Charter by promoting it to ACT Government agencies and through the development of a protocol for government consultation with young people.</p>	<p>The Government initiated Youth InterACT in 2003, a youth participation strategy, which allows both young people and Government to liase and consult.</p> <p>The Youth InterACT program consists of a website and consultation register where young people can receive and provide information to Government. The Youth Advisory Council (volunteer young people aged 12-25 years) with whom the Government seeks advice or the Council can provide advice and Youth InterACT Grants and Scholarships, which provide opportunities for young people to access programs, learning and development and areas of special interest.</p>
		<p>DHCS to promote linkages between the Ministerial Advisory Councils of Multicultural and Community Affairs Group and the Minister's Youth Council.</p>	<p>The Ministerial Advisory Council of Multicultural and Community Affairs Group ceased operating in November 2005.</p> <p>The synergy between youth and multicultural services has been strengthened by the alignment of the two areas within the Department.</p> <p>The ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Youth Advisory Council (formerly Minister's Youth Council) formed a partnership with the 2007 Youth InterACT Conference 'Take Off'. A number of young people from the multicultural community attended as well as a guest speaker and facilitator, Dr Hass Dellal, Executive Director of the Australian Multicultural Foundation.</p>

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			The Ministerial Muslim Advisory Council has been expanded to include youth representation.
		The Human Rights Commission (HRC) to continue to encourage representatives of the Youth Coalition of the ACT and YWCA to participate in the biannual Human Rights Community Forum.	All parties will continue to participate in this forum on a biannual basis with the HRC.
		The Department of Education (DET) to continue through their School programs to offer a range of activities, which promote understandings about government process, and how students can participate as an active citizen.	<p>Government schools have programs and activities in place to encourage democratic participation by students, such as student representation on school boards, Student Representative Councils, student parliaments, the Mock United Nations assembly, mentoring, partner schemes, anti-bullying and parliamentary simulation games.</p> <p>In the ACT's <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> curriculum framework there are 26 Essential Learning Achievements (ELAs).</p> <p>ELA 21 states: The student understands and values what it means to be a citizen within a democracy.</p> <p>These programs are provided on an ongoing basis.</p>
		The Chief Minister's Department (CMDs) provides free, accessible events for young people.	In 2007 ParkLive was delivered on Australia Day in Glebe Park, for the third year.

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		<p>CMD encourages young people to be involved in the organisation and management of event activities.</p>	<p>ParkLive is aimed at 15 – 25 year olds with a range of activities and entertainment to appeal to that age group.</p> <p>Parkway, a youth group, is responsible for the organisation of several activities including skate competitions, young women's "pampering" activities, free tattoos, dance performances and stage management.</p> <p>This event gives young people the opportunity to develop leadership and organisational skills.</p> <p>Young musicians and dancers are also employed to perform at the event. This gives them the opportunity to perform to a large crowd and to work with a professional sound and lighting crew.</p>
		<p>CMD encourages youth membership on Boards and Councils to ensure youth issues inform policy direction.</p>	<p>Membership of the ACT Cultural Council, the ACT Government's principal advisory body on the arts, was coordinated with an appropriate balance in mind and, consequently, has youth representation.</p> <p>Key Arts Organisations funded by the ACT Government through the ACT Arts Fund include youth representation where appropriate.</p>
		<p>Parks, Conservation & Lands (PCL) to continue to engage recreation user groups in consultations, including groups such as Canberra Off Road Cyclists, which young people participate in.</p>	<p>PCL held six consultative meetings with user groups including young people.</p>

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	<p>Priority: Developing approaches to increase the effectiveness of young people's participation in the development and evaluation of services and programs that are designed to meet their needs and that affect their lives.</p>	<p>DHCS to research and develop a best practice framework for the effective involvement of young people in the development of the service provided for them.</p>	<p>In the evaluation of the YSP young people are key stakeholders and will be consulted during the process.</p> <p>The National Youth Taskforce has responsibility for undertaking research on issues affecting young people. The ACT is an active member of this taskforce. Research reports from the Taskforce are disseminated across the sector in the ACT. Findings from the research are used by the Department to inform and assist in the planning of best practice models.</p>
		<p>The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) to continue to engage with young people via promotions and presentation activities.</p>	<p>The views and comments of young people at these forums are fed into the development and evaluation of current and proposed policies and programs.</p>
		<p>The Children and Young People Commissioner (C&YPC) to establish advisory groups of young people. The Commissioner will also develop a website facility to inform young people of opportunities for participation and consultation.</p>	<p>The implementation of this initiative is planned for 2007.</p>
		<p>DET will Trial the <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> curriculum framework in schools in 2007 with a view to implementation in 2008.</p>	<p>The <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> curriculum framework is being trialled in schools in 2007, and will be implemented in all schools by 2008.</p> <p>In the ACT's <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> curriculum framework there are 26 Essential Learning Achievements (ELAs).</p>

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			<p>ELAs 3, 4 and 15 support this priority.</p> <p>3. The student makes considered decisions. 4. The student acts with integrity and regard for others. 15. The student acts for an environmentally sustainable future.</p>
		<p>DET will continue to encourage Schools to engage in environment projects such as re-cycling, sustainable schools and waste management.</p>	<p>Numerous Schools throughout the ACT also engage in environment projects such as: re-cycling, sustainable schools and waste management.</p> <p>Registered courses provide the option for Year 11 and 12 students to engage in community service programs as a part of their Year 12 certificate.</p>
		<p>DET to continue to encourage Schools to hold debating and chess competitions, excursions and involvement in sports.</p>	<p>Various schools hold debating and chess competitions, and all schools conduct excursions and sporting events.</p>
		<p>CMD encourages Youth membership on arts organisational boards.</p>	<p>The Board of Canberra Youth Theatre, a Key Arts Organisation funded through the ACT Government's Arts Fund, incorporates youth members.</p>
		<p>ACT Health to develop a framework for participation across Mental Health ACT.</p>	<p>In March 2006, ACT Health commenced a project to work in partnership with consumers, carers and community organisations to develop a framework for participation across Mental Health ACT. The framework recognises the unique needs and resources that young people possess for participation in decision making about mental health services. Mental Health ACT is awaiting the endorsement of the framework.</p>

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		ACT Health through the Alcohol and Drug Program to develop a peer education pilot for young persons. (12 – 17 years).	The Alcohol and Drug Program will develop a peer education pilot for young persons (12 – 17 years) who are disengaged from both mainstream and alternative education systems and who are at risk of, or currently engaging in high risk behaviours including alcohol and other drug use, offending, unsafe sex. The pilot is due to commence in the first half of 2007.
	Priority: Supporting young people to participate in cultural activities, including cultural activities specifically for young people.	DHCS will implement Grants programs to provide opportunities for young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to participate in their community.	Under the National Action Plan to build on social cohesion, harmony and security, funding has been provided for an Integrated Sports Program involving up to 100 youth from the Muslim and broader community; and funding for a Youth forum. Funding has also been provided through the Multicultural Grants program to multicultural groups for their youth to participate in cultural activities.
		OCYFS to continue to implement the Youth InterACT Grants and Scholarships initiative to enable young people to apply for funding to run and participate in activities and projects for other young people.	As of April 2007 a total of 30 Scholarships totalling \$14,340 have been allocated through the Youth InterACT Scholarships program from the 2006/07 budget. A Youth InterACT Grants round will be conducted in August/September 2007.
		OFT in partnership with ACT Policing and event organisers, will continue to contribute to alcohol management and security planning for major cultural activities and events.	This is conducted on an ongoing basis by OFT in partnership with ACT Policing.

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		The Restorative Justice Unit to continue to partner with the AFP, who provides an indigenous liaison officer as a part-time restorative justice convenor.	The Indigenous Liaison Officer engages with indigenous participants and their families when they have been referred to the restorative justice program within the Department of Justice and Community Safety (JACS). This is an ongoing partnership between the Restorative Justice Unit and ACT Policing.
		DET promotes and supports the arts and cultural events in schools and promotes participation by schools and individual students.	<p>A wide range of art and cultural activities are available to students in ACT government schools including art and dance festivals, Rock Eisteddfod, Waikakiri, the Shakespeare festival, Carols in Civic and other competitions.</p> <p>The Instrumental Music Program and Music in Schools Program also present annual cultural events.</p>
		DET provides regular opportunities to showcase the arts within schools and on a state and national level.	<p>A gala event to showcase excellent school and student achievements in the arts is planned for August 2007.</p> <p>ACT government schools participate in and host local and national cultural events.</p> <p><i>Every Chance to Learn</i> ELAs 25 & 26 support this priority.</p> <p>25. Creates artistic works. 26. Understands and values artistic works.</p>
		CMD has responsibility for a number of key events in the ACT Community including ParkLive.	ParkLive, held on Australia Day in Glebe Park gives young people the opportunity to try new activities. In 2007 the event offered Capoeira (Brazilian Martial Arts) and Footbag workshops.

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			<p>Communities at Work participated in the event and offered free graffiti workshops.</p> <p>Young musicians are promoted through the event. The 2007 event featured Quagmire, Los Capitanes and Ashleigh Mannix along with dancers from Kulture Break.</p>
		<p>CMD to provide arts and cultural programs designed for and targeting young people.</p>	<p>The ACT Government through the ACT Arts Fund funds Key Arts Organisations from all art forms and across the full spectrum of the arts - from community arts to the fine arts - which enables Canberrans to participate in core arts activities and access arts infrastructure.</p> <p>Many organisations have programs tailored to youth participation. These are diverse and numerous. However, some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canberra Youth Music, who offer a plethora of programs specifically for young people; • Canberra Youth Theatre, who also offer specific youth programs; • Tuggeranong Arts Centre, who, through their 'Kidz Viz' classes and 'Fresh Funk' young choreographer initiative, target young Canberrans; • Belconnen Community Centre, who encourage youth participation through their 'WET Season' support program aimed at young and emerging theatre practitioners; • the ANU Community Outreach Program, which has a decided youth focus,

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Street Theatre, who offer a 'Saturday Club' and 'Class Clown' programs to young participants; • Jigsaw Theatre, who produce theatre for young audiences; and • the ACT Writers Centre, who produce an annual 'Young Writers Survival Guide' - information specifically for young and emerging writers.
		PCL to continue to facilitate an Indigenous Traineeship Program.	PCL currently have two indigenous youth trainees employed.
		PCL provide Indigenous Landcare activities that engage young people.	PCL have six indigenous youth engaged under the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) for fieldwork.
		PCL to continue to support the indigenous schools "On Track" program.	An Indigenous mentor for school aged participants is supported by PCL.
	Priority: Enhancing young people's participation in sport and recreational programs and activities.	DHCS to provide for the participation of young people in police community activities including the Police and Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) and ReCLINK.	<p>The Canberra Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) and ReCLINK program received funding through the Youth Services Program (YSP).</p> <p>The PCYC is funded to provide both outreach and community based sport and recreation programs for 'at risk' young people between the ages of 12-25 years.</p>
		OFT to develop a partnership with Alcohol Aware – The Smart Play program that is being trialled in a number of licensed clubs that have strong sporting involvement and affiliations.	The trial promotes the messages of Be Smokefree; Only Consume Standard Drinks; Don't Drink and Drive and Be Road Smart; and Gamble Responsibility and will be promoted in a variety of ways to both junior and senior playing personnel and also to general club patrons.

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		The HRC to continue to promote and implement the <i>Play by the Rules</i> program.	This program aims to prevent harassment and discrimination in sport. The program is an ongoing partnership with the HRC and the Department of Sport and Recreation.
		The Restorative Justice Unit within JACS to continue to encourage young people to participate in constructive pro-social activities such as sport and recreational programs, often through the PCYC.	This is a continuing part of the Restorative Justice program.
		DET to continue mandated physical education hours to assist in increased skill development and fitness for students in primary schools.	<p>In addition to classroom based and extra curricular school based sporting activities, schools provide recreational opportunities for students such as school camps and excursions, which may include visiting skateboard and bike parks, and local sports centres.</p> <p>These extra-curricular activities also provide leadership opportunities for young people.</p> <p>The Secondary School Sport Association has a comprehensive calendar of inter-school competitions.</p>
		PCL will continue to host community events in mountain biking, adventure sport and other activities for young people.	PCL have hosted approximately 300 recreation events including many youth activities including provision of facilities for youth: playgrounds, skate parks, halls (e.g. Sea Scouts) etc.

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			Additionally, school holiday program consisting of Ranger Guided activities.
		Recreation Services within Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) provide financial assistance to sport and recreation organisations and clubs through the Sport and Recreation Grants Program. The grants support participation in active lifestyles through the delivery of quality programs and services. are primarily targeted to young people.	The recipients of the 2007 Sport and Recreation Grants program were announced in January 2007. A total of \$1,997,385 will be injected via the grant program into the sport and recreation community program and facility enhancement in 2006/07.
		TAMS to continue to provide ACT Academy of Sport (ACTAS) Scholarships to 250 young athletes to assist and support their pursuit of sporting ex	250 ACTAS Scholarship were awarded in 2006 to young people to support their high performance sporting pursuits. Following an identified need to increase the value of scholarships to be more closely aligned with other state institutes and sporting academies, a reduced number of scholarships (164) will receive better quality service in 2007.
		TAMS to provide grants to key sport and recreation providers to increase opportunities for young people including: YMCA – RAID program for intellectually disabled young people.	TAMS provided special purpose funding to the YMCA of Canberra for program assistance for disability and older adult services totalling \$20,000.

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		TAMS to continue to support the Disability Education Program with ACTSPORT to provide introductory pathways for young people with disability and the Special Olympics programs for intellectually disabled.	The TAMS Disability Sport Education Program (DSEP) provided assistance to ACTSPORT totalling \$79,000. This provided delivery of services to support participation pathways for young people with a disability in alignment with national DSEP objectives through the Australian Sports Commission.
		TAMS to implement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sport Program that aims to increase participation of indigenous young people in sport and recreation programs.	The Indigenous Sport Program is currently being implemented through five various sports (football, cricket, softball, basketball, netball) to encourage sporting participation of indigenous youth.
		TAMS will continue to Implement the Good Sports Territory Program that aims to encourage appropriate behaviours in sporting environments to ensure enjoyable participation.	The Good Sports Territory Program has been strengthened through the development of a social marketing campaign utilising ambassadors from ACT based national league teams. The message is to encourage appropriate behaviours in sport, particularly in junior environments. The program will be rolled out in ACT Schools from May 2007.
	Priority: Enhancing young people's participation in economic activities, including participation in the labour market.	DHCS provide opportunities for young people to participate in the labour market by awarding scholarships through the Youth InterACT program.	Youth InterACT Scholarships provide an opportunity for young people to apply for various educational and self-development programs to further assist them in their chosen field of interest.

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			<p>Youth InterACT recently supported a law student attending an International Law Exchange program involving International Red Cross, the United Nations and the World Trade Organisation program. This young person applied for and was awarded a \$500 scholarship to further her career as a member/employee of the Red Cross.</p>
		<p>DHCS through the Youth Services Program (YSP) provides opportunities for young people to participate in a number of educational and vocational activities.</p>	<p>The Youth Services Program (YSP) funds community organisations to provide services to young people between 12-25 years 'at risk' of jeopardising their physical, emotional or social development or becoming disconnected from the community. The YSP funds 25 programs with a budget of approximately \$4.7 million (GST exclusive) for 2006-07.</p> <p>The YSP funds four community organisations: Anglicare Youth Education Program, Galilee Urayarra Indigenous Youth Skills Education Program, Gudan Gulwan Education Support Program and the Migrant Resource Centre's Program for After Schools Studies, to provide support to young people in both educational and vocational activities.</p>
		<p>OFT will continue to provide advice and advocacy for young people through informative and empowering presentations and workshops in primary</p>	<p>The OFT provide these workshops on an ongoing basis throughout the year.</p>

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		and high schools, colleges and community group situations.	See above.
		<p>DET through Curriculum Support and Professional Learning Unit to continue to provide the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian school based Apprenticeships (ASBA); • The Breakthrough 500 initiative; • Work Experience; and • Vocational Learning programs in schools. 	<p>DET will achieve its targets for training young people under the Skilling Australia's Workforce Agreement with the Australian Government.</p> <p>Latest statistics on Australian Apprenticeships confirm that in the 12 months ending June 2006 in the ACT, there was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in commencements of young people under 19 of 18% (Australia 1%); • an increase in Australian school based Apprenticeships numbers of 13%; and • an increase in commencements of young people aged 20-25 of 20% (Australia 3%). <p>In 2006 DET launched a Charter of Responsibilities for Australian Apprentices and their employers, which is distributed to every person commencing a training contract and provides information on rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>The Canberra Careers Market 2006 was held in August and attracted over 52 school groups from across Canberra and the surrounding region. Over 7,300 people attended the market over the two days.</p>

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			<p>A target of achieving over 500 new Australian School-based Apprenticeships in 2007 has been set in the ACT. Australian School-based Apprenticeships offer students 15 years of age or over the opportunity to achieve a nationally recognised vocational qualification by combining paid work and training as part of their education program.</p>
		<p>CMD Business and Industry Development supports the Young Achievement Australia (YAA) initiative. This national program is run by a not-for-profit organisation and has an ACT and Capital Region office based in Canberra. The aim of the program is to support the development and enhancement of business enterprise skills, capacities and understanding of youth.</p>	<p>The ACT Government (through various agencies) has supported Young Achievement Australia ACT and Capital Region for over ten years. The level of support has varied over this time and currently includes the provision of office space and office facilities through DET (previously through CMD / DED). CMD Business and Industry development has also provided up to \$10,000 per annum to support several school and university-based programs and sponsors an annual award and the annual awards event. The ACT Government has also, from time to time, supported the program with the provision of mentors for the secondary and tertiary-based groups.</p> <p>The ACT Skills Commission was tasked to address skills shortages and future workforce issues, including ways of improving transitions for young people between school and training and work.</p>

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		PCL offer work experience, which young people participate in.	Three work experience programs have been implemented throughout 2006-07.
	Priority: Maximising opportunities to promote the achievements and contributions of young Canberrans.	DHCS to continue to conduct annual Young Canberra Citizen of the Year Awards to recognise the contributions and achievements of young Canberrans.	<p>The Young Canberra Citizen of the Year (YCCY) Awards Ceremony was held on 18 April 2007 at the Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>Ms Hannah Lord was the YCCY 2007 recipient. Mr Joshua Harrison and Mr James Hunter were the Encouragement Award recipients and, Mr Callum Larkman and Ms Kellie Momi were the Personal Achievement recipients. Hidden Corners Theatre group received the Group Award for 2007.</p> <p>Community CPS Australia continued its partnership with the Department by providing sponsorship of \$4200 to the award recipients.</p>
		The HRC to continue to conduct an annual Senior Primary School Human Rights Art Award.	This Award program is ongoing.
		DET to establish a network of school based media officers.	A school media reference group has been established.
		DET will continue to regularly hold public exhibits and events, which showcase student achievement.	DET has compiled a Promotional events calendar for 2007. The calendar includes many events that celebrate student achievement such as the Microsoft awards, CWA awards and the annual Senior Secondary Studies Recognition of Excellence Awards.

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			In August 2007, a major student performance showcasing achievement in the arts by government school students will be held at the Canberra Theatre.
		CMD to continue to sponsor the Young Achievement Australia awards night.	CMD sponsors the awards night of YAA and has promoted the achievements of award winners.
		TAMS to continue to conduct the annual ACT Academy of Sport Awards to recognise the achievements of young athletes in the ACT.	The annual ACT Academy of Sport Awards were conducted in November 2006 in recognition of outstanding performance by young ACT athletes.
	Priority: Improving and positively influencing the public portrayal of young people, particularly in the media.	DHCS will continue to support National Youth Week as an opportunity to highlight the contribution of young people through public events and media opportunities.	<p>National Youth Week (NYW) in the ACT is funded in partnership with the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Unique to the ACT, National Youth Week is co-ordinated in partnership between the department and the Youth Coalition of the ACT. In 2006/07 the Youth Coalition received \$19,969 (GST exclusive) from the department and a further \$10,000 from the Australian Government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FACSIA) who co-ordinate NYW nationally.</p> <p>Ms Diana Ni, a member of the Minister's Youth Council was the ACT Young member on the National Youth Week Planning Group.</p>

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			<p>National Youth Week provides young people in the ACT with a week of events to highlight the contribution young people make in the community.</p> <p>More than 35 events were held during the week offering young people a range of different opportunities to get involved.</p> <p>National Youth Week was launched by Ms Karin MacDonald, MLA on 13 April 2007, and coincided with the opening of the 'Take Off' Youth InterACT conference (hosted by the Youth Advisory Council).</p>
		<p>The OFT to continue to portray the positive aspects of young people and their achievements in any promotional or media programs that relate to either fair-trading or other activities regulated by the OFT.</p>	<p>The OFT continues the promotion of positive achievements by young people on an ongoing basis.</p>
		<p>The Restorative Justice Unit of JACS, through the program principals, to distinguish between the worthiness of a young person and their unacceptable behaviour.</p>	<p>The principles of restorative justice focus on the harm caused rather than the person and reduces the potential for labelling and denigration of young people who are responsible for offences. This program is provided on an ongoing basis.</p>
		<p>The DET Media and Marketing Unit aims to enhance linkages between DET and the media.</p>	<p>The Media and Marketing Unit aim to have one school or individual student achievement profiled in the media each week.</p>

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		DET will continue to publicise student achievements in Blue Mango publication, which is distributed to all schools.	A departmental media officer with responsibility for the DET publication <i>Blue Mango</i> visits schools and reports on student achievements to the broader ACT government school community.
		CMD to continue to encourage media coverage of young people's involvement in events.	ParkLive receives media coverage as part of Australia Day activities. In the three years of the event the young people who participate in and attend this event have been portrayed positively in the media.
		TAMS implementation of the ACT Graffiti Strategy includes the proactive engagement of young people.	TAMS supports media articles on positive aspects of youth involvement in legal community art.
	Priority: Encouraging young people to become actively involved as volunteers in the community.	DHCS will continue to support the Barnardo's Kids Friends Mentoring Program.	DHCS continues to fund Barnardo's Kids Friends Program to support an average of 60 friendships between volunteer adult mentors and children and young people aged six to 16.
		DHCS support the Youth Advisory Council (formerly Minister's Youth Council), which is a group of young people aged 12-25 years of age who provide information and advice to the Minister for Children and Young People, the community and other Government organisations.	The Youth Advisory Council (formerly Minister's Youth Council) was formed in 2003 and consists of 12 young people ranging in age from 12 to 25 years. In 2006/07 the Council has been involved in a number of activities including holding public forums on issues such as the Griffin Legacy and Towards 2020. Additionally,

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			they have provided advice to Legislative Standing Committees on Lowering the Voting Age.
		A range of opportunities exist within DHCS for young people to volunteer through our funded services.	<p>The Youth Services Program provides funding to Lifeline Canberra to support young people in the ACT, including the opportunity to volunteer as a telephone counsellor and receive Lifeline training.</p> <p>Young people were involved in the 2007 National Multicultural Festival as performers, participants in food stalls and as interns from the University of Canberra in an event administrative role.</p>
		The Restorative Justice Unit to continue to provide agreements that include tasks for young people to volunteer their time at certain community organisations or groups.	These agreements encourage young people to identify more positively with their community. This program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		DET to continue to promote community partnership programs.	There are approximately 20 partnership programs existing between DET and community organisations. Examples include student involvement in the 2007 ANZAC ceremony, and school based volunteer programs. There is a breadth of volunteer programs operating in schools, such as the visiting program for students from Cranleigh and Fraser Primary School to a local aged care facility, the 'Volunteering Works Both Ways' Program at Stromlo High School which involves Year 10 students

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			<p>volunteering on community projects such as tree planting and also volunteering with their own and adjoining schools.</p> <p>Students completing the International Baccalaureate are required to complete volunteer service as part of their program.</p>
		<p>CMD will continue to facilitate volunteer opportunities in the arts for young people.</p>	<p>Applications to the ACT Arts Fund are assessed by artform peers selected to panels co-opted by the ACT Cultural Council. Young arts practitioners are encouraged to participate in this process.</p> <p>Similarly, most of the ACT Government funded Key Arts Organisations provide numerous opportunities for young people to volunteer their time or expertise.</p>
		<p>PCL to continue to support a range of volunteer activities including Parkcare and Landcare, which young people participate in.</p>	<p>TAMS supports 14 Parkcare and four Rural Landcare volunteer groups.</p> <p>Greening Australia partnership with approximately 2500 young volunteers.</p>
		<p>TAMS will implement, in partnership with the Active Australia Schools Network, a youth sport leaders program offering students in year 10 – 12 to undertake education and training to become sporting volunteers in roles of coaches, officials and administrators.</p>	<p>In August 2006, the Active Australia Schools Network conducted a youth sports leaders program in partnership with state sporting organisations to encourage students to take up leadership roles in the sport and recreation community.</p>

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<p>Access Young people require equal access to community resources, including access to information on a range of topics and relevant services.</p> <p>The different access requirements for young people are related to age, gender, cultural origin, disability, sexuality, sub culture and geographic location.</p> <p>These access requirements should be fully considered and reflected in service delivery responses and the provision of information within the ACT.</p>	<p>Priority: Increasing young people's access to information.</p>	<p>DHCS to ensure the Office of Multicultural, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs' (OMATSIA) websites provide linkages to relevant information for young people.</p>	<p>The OMATSIA database website www.dhcs.act.gov./community/default.htm provides useful linkages for young people while the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) also disseminates information through its extensive database of resources of benefit to young people. Relevant linkages of special interest to young people are regularly maintained.</p>
		<p>DHCS to ensure ACT Government services are available and promoted in a variety of community languages.</p>	<p>All ACT government agencies are required to include the Translating and Interpreting (TIS) block in all brochures, publications and websites.</p>
		<p>DHCS to ensure ACT Government publications, brochures and websites incorporate information on how to access interpreting services.</p>	<p>All ACT government agencies are required to include the Translating and Interpreting (TIS) block in all brochures, publications and websites.</p>

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		The OFT will continue to provide a range of promotional and educational activities across the community.	Some of these activities involve direct engagement with young people. Others are captured in structured learning programs provided by schools, colleges and tertiary institutions. The OFT conducts these activities on an ongoing basis.
		The C&YPC to develop a website as a mechanism to engage young people.	The implementation of the website is planned for 2007.
		DET to continue the <i>Smart Schools Smart Students</i> initiative to increase internet bandwidth to schools, which will assist with information technology access.	Schools throughout the ACT are increasingly employing information and communication technologies as an integral part of the curriculum expanding all students' skills and experiences of the knowledge economy appropriate to their education level.
		DET encourages the ongoing use of computers, the internet, interactive whiteboards, e-learning and electronic media across the ACT education curriculum. DET will also ensure that ACT government school students have access to a wide range of information.	A recent initiative has resulted in more than 570 interactive white boards being installed in ACT government schools, which is equivalent to approximately one whiteboard to every 60 students. Interactive whiteboards have the capacity to display internet-based information to the whole class at one time.
		DET to continue to ensure that all schools are connected to the internet and supervised access is available to students.	<i>Myclasses</i> have also been implemented and are a way of setting up an internet-based group that can collaborate on joint projects in shared computer space. All schools now have access to <i>Myclasses</i> .

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>School libraries are also significant access points for information.</p>
		<p>CMD will continue to provides accessible information points for young people.</p>	<p>The ACT Government is committed to making its information, services, events and venues, accessible to as many people as possible.</p> <p>Through the ACT Arts Fund administered by ArtsACT, the ACT Government provides \$3.3M annually to twenty-two Key Arts Organisations and \$230,000 annually to three Community Arts Officers who offer a range of infrastructure and information resources to young people.</p> <p>In trying to simplify processes, the Information Booklet that accompanies the ACT Arts Fund has undergone considerable revisions over the past two years to ensure it contains accessible language in a concise format. ArtsACT offers alternative formats of the ACT Arts Fund booklet for young readers who find it difficult to read a standard print document. A translating and interpreting service and TTY typewriting service for the deaf or hearing impaired is also offered.</p> <p>In following years, ArtsACT will focus on presenting clear and accessible web-based information.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		Mental Health ACT Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services to continue to provide information sheets on a range of topics.	Mental Health ACT Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service have numerous information sheets on a range of topics to assist with providing easy access to information for young people.
		The Junction Youth Health Service to launch its website in 2006.	The Junction Youth Health Service launched its website in September 2006.
		Antenatal educators to continue to provide opportunities for school tours of college students.	Antenatal educators provide opportunities for school tours of college students to The Canberra Hospital Maternity Unit to provide information regarding maternity care to young people.
		ACT Health to develop a program to advise young people of the implications of possessing small amounts of illicit drugs.	A program is being established to inform young people on the legal implications of possessing small quantities of illicit drugs. The program is due to commence in the first half of 2007.
		The ACT's Public Libraries provide collections for young people (including picture books, junior fiction, young adult fiction, and non fiction).	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
		Promote the Sport and Recreation ACT website and relevant contacts to increase awareness of opportunities for participation in physical activity.	Sport and Recreation Services website is promoted through all industry forums and communications.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
	<p>Priority: Improving young people's access to and awareness of government and community services through information, education and advocacy.</p>	<p>DHCS focuses on child and client centre practise. A range of policies, programs and consultations occur that are inclusive of young people.</p>	<p>Housing and Community Services will identify a designated Housing Officer for Young People under the Youth Homelessness Action Plan. This plan also identifies the need for joint training between Housing ACT and the community sector staff to improve skills and understanding of working with young people.</p> <p>Care and Protection Services (C&PS) have been working with CREATE in their development of Young Consultants Training.</p> <p>A Young Consultant is a young person who is in care, or has been in care, and who is now working to create a difference for other children and young people within the care system and making sure that children and young people's voices are heard. This is an ongoing initiative. In 2007 CPS have assisted CREATE by participating in the module called "I Get the Care Sector". It is designed to help young people understand how the Out of Home Care Sector works and who is involved in it.</p> <p>The Adolescent Day Unit and Youth Connection within DHCS provide information on a wide range of support programs for young people and their families. They also provide information and links to advocacy and services forming an integral part of individual case plans for young people in both programs.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>The Department also provides information to young people through the Youth InterACT Website. The website provides updates on events and information in the ACT community. The consultation register, also seeks feedback and opinions from young people in regard to a number of issues eg skate parks, bus interchanges, p-plates, lowering the voting age etc.</p> <p>In 2004 five regional youth centres and the Youth Coalition of the ACT received recurrent additional funding to provide service coordination. The aim of the co-ordination is to promote greater public and target group awareness of services available for young people in the region, develop and support local community based activities, special interest and youth cultural groups and coordinate the delivery of quality youth and community services.</p> <p>The One Stop Shop is an initiative that commenced in late March 2006 to assist Community Youth Justice (CYJ) case managers in addressing a range of needs of children and young people that contribute to offending behaviour.</p> <p>The One Stop Shop provides a centralised location in which staff from a range of service providers operate. This allows young people to access the services when they are attending for court ordered supervision and can therefore readily engage with services whilst at CYJ.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>During the first year, CYJ have actively engaged drug and alcohol counsellors to assist young people with any drug and/or alcohol related issues. Ted Noffs attends one afternoon per week and provides education, counselling and rehabilitation services to young people up to the age of 18 years.</p> <p>Directions ACT provide two counsellors one afternoon a week for drug and alcohol counseling, assessments, reports and counseling to address issues underlying the young person's substance use.</p> <p>Caloola (Employment and Training) assists young people to develop the required skills to enter and sustain employment and apprenticeship opportunities. Caloola attends two afternoons per week.</p> <p>Following extensive community consultation one theme of the ACT Multicultural Strategy 2006-2009 is 'Young People' which is aimed at addressing the concerns and issues specifically for young people from a culturally and linguistically diverse background.</p>
		<p>The OFT will continue through promotions, client services and its website to invite young people to make contact and discuss relevant services. Referrals are conducted when appropriate.</p>	<p>This is an ongoing service provided by OFT.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		The HRC to continue their program of community education focussing on young people, opportunities to participate in decision making on human rights and the Human Rights Act.	This is an ongoing program provided by HRC.
		DET to continue to encourage services to visit schools to provide information on a range of topics.	External agencies such as the police, RSPCA and Red Cross visit schools to provide information and increase awareness of the role of various community agencies.
		DET to continue to employ staff in schools in specific roles or staff to perform these roles in a voluntary capacity.	<p>The following roles adopted by staff in schools also serve to provide additional information and awareness to young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year advisers; • School librarian; • Counsellors; • Curriculum; Coordinators; • Pastoral care teachers; and • SRCs. <p>In addition, some schools have Youth Workers or Schools as Community workers on staff to provide additional support to students and school communities.</p>
		CMD to ensure information on government activity is accessible by placing it in the places young people look for it.	The internet is traditionally an area that young people utilise readily. Therefore providing information on the arts in an online format will target young audiences. Accordingly, the ACT Arts Fund is moving toward facilitating an online application process.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			Community Arts Officers are housed in community centres frequented by young people.
		ACT Health to continue to fund non-Government organisations to provide information, education and advocacy services.	Non-Government Organisations funded by ACT Health are funded to provide information, education and advocacy services to ensure young people are aware of and have access to services that address health and well being needs. This is provided on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Health through the Alcohol and Drug Program will seek proposals for peer education initiatives, support advocacy and community development.	These programs will facilitate connected networks of peers to health resources, services and programs and are due to commence in the first half of 2007.
	Priority: Providing information and services to increase personal health and well being for young people and their families.	DHCS will provide additional support for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Support Program through additional funding to Jumby Mulla.	The "Jumby Mulla" Aboriginal Family Support program operated by Billabong Aboriginal Corporation is funded under the DHCS Family Support Program. The service received an increase in funding and will receive \$134,272.51 in 2006/2007 to provide community building programs and family support to indigenous families in North Canberra.
		DHCS to provide additional support to young people 'at risk' through additional funding which will support families from early intervention and prevention programs through to the	A total of \$14.5 million in 2006-2007 was made available to Out Of Home Care to provide a range of services to meet the needs of children and young people in care of the Chief Executive.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>provision for substitute care for young people who can no longer live at home.</p>	<p>The current foster care service funding agreements, which commenced from 1 July 2005, provide for 173 annualised foster care placements. These service funding agreements are due to expire on 30 June 2008.</p> <p>The new residential care service funding agreements commenced from 1 April 2006 and increased the number of residential care placements from 21 (2005/2006) to 41 (2006/2007). These service funding agreements are due to expire on 30 June 2008.</p> <p>A range of different service models exist within the residential care services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis Residential Care; • General Residential Care; • Stabilisation, Transition; • Assessment Residential Care; and • Sexually Inappropriate Behaviours Residential Care. <p>Individualised Arrangements have been negotiated for children and young people in care who require intensive support.</p> <p>A service funding agreement with Marymead was established for Placement Prevention, Family Restoration, Family Preservation and Family Support from 1 April 2006 to 30 June 2008.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>This service provides a range of in-home intensive family support services to families whose children are at risk of requiring statutory intervention or where children have been in out of home care and are being restored home.</p> <p>A service funding agreement with Marymead has been established for Facilitated Contact and Transport Service (pilot project) from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007. This program provides transport and supervised contact visits for children and young people in care to have contact with their natural families.</p> <p>The OCYFS operates the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foster Care Service, which was established in August 2004. As at April 2007, the Service has 15 families registered as carers. There are currently 11 children in care placements within the Service.</p> <p>Family and Youth Support Workers within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services (ATSIS) OCYFS, provide additional support to disadvantaged and vulnerable Indigenous youth and their families in the ACT.</p>
		<p>The OFT will continue to provide structured educational activities such as the Alcohol Awareness program and the harm</p>	<p>Both these programs are provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		minimisation promotion featuring water bottles at cafes, restaurants, clubs and bars.	See above.
		The HRC to develop a community education program, which will include information for families about resolving complaints about health services and accessing health records.	The implementation of this program is planned for 2007.
		DET to continue to provide information and services on personal health and wellbeing through The <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> ELAs 15 & 17.	<p>DET supports a range of programs in schools that aim to increase personal health and well being for young people. Programs may focus on diet, exercise, mental and emotional health, anger management, bullying and sexual health and personal safety.</p> <p>ELAs 15 to 17 state:</p> <p>15. The student takes action to promote health and wellbeing.</p> <p>17. The student manages self and relationships.</p>
		DET to undertake a process of accreditation of all school canteens.	<p>All school canteens are to complete accreditation by 2009. As a part of the accreditation process all canteen managers and the school's Health Coordinator must attend a training session promoting best practice for school canteens.</p> <p>This is a joint initiative between DET and ACT Health, and it reinforces the links between the school canteen and the classroom in relation to learning about nutrition and health food options.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			Additionally, 48 ACT Government schools have a nominated Health Promoting schools Contact Officer.
		CMD to continue to fund Community Arts Officers.	<p>The ACT Government through the ACT Arts Fund funds community arts officers in the Belconnen Community Centre, the Tuggeranong Arts Centre, an ArtsAbility officer, a Multicultural Arts officer and an Indigenous Arts officer. Through known community facilities, these officers provide a contact point and information source to the whole community, including young people.</p> <p>Historically, the Officers provide advice, broker projects and facilitate access to the arts and cultural services.</p>
		Mental Health ACT to continue to provide information to schools and community organisations about the assessment and treatment services provided for children and adolescents with moderate to severe mental illnesses.	Mental Health ACT provides this on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Health to provide funding to Mental Illness Education ACT to deliver a school based mental illness education program. Presenters talk about living with mental illness and provide accurate information about mental health to students and teachers.	ACT Health provides this on an ongoing basis.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		The Junction Youth Health Service will continue to provide the following Community Health services: general practice, general nursing, sexual health, counselling, brokerage, advocacy and referral to services that address socio-economic needs.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by the Junction Youth Health Service.
		Antenatal Educators to continue to provide information regarding maternity services for young people.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by Antenatal Educators.
		ACT Health to continue to support The STEP AHEAD Program.	The STEP AHEAD Program responds to the needs of young women (21 years and under) who are pregnant and their partners and families, by providing continuity of care, age appropriate education and outreach services at The Junction and Canberra College. The program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Health to continue to provide the Child, Youth, Women Health Program (CYWHP).	The CYWHP provides diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine to year 9 students via a school-based program. The program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		CYWHP to continue to provide asthma education to young people to the age of 25 years.	This program is provided on an ongoing basis.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		CYWHP to continue to support young parents who are part of the Canberra College Cares (CCCares) program by providing them access to maternal and child health nursing services for themselves and their babies.	This program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		CYWHP to continue to partner with Mental Health ACT in the provision of client services, which manage youth with anorexia, bulimia and other non-specific eating disorders.	This program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		CYWHP to continue its involvement in the development and delivery of the Tuckatalk in School Program in partnership with the Department of Education and Training.	This program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		Paediatricians to continue to provide services to young people to the age of 16 years with behavioural problems.	This is provided on an ongoing basis.
		CYWHP to continue delivering nursing and medical services to young people through the Junction as a partnership with Anglicare.	This partnership is ongoing.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		CYWHP in partnership with Barnardos to continue to operate the <i>Circles Of Support</i> program.	CYWHP in partnership with Barnardos to operate the <i>Circles Of Support</i> program for young parents and/or parents affected by alcohol and other drug issues. Funding was secured through Community Inclusion funding for the period 2006-2009.
		CYWHP in partnership with the Department of Education and Training and the Heart Foundation will develop Healthy Eating guidelines to be used in ACT Schools.	This is currently in progress and will require final endorsement from DET for dual branding and publishing.
		CYWHP will provide immunisation to prevent cervical cancer to young women aged 12 – 18 years via a school-based program.	This program is due to commence in the first half of 2007.
		ACT Health promotes the health benefits of regular physical activity to young people and their families through the promotion of the national physical activity guidelines. ACT Health is currently promoting the health benefits of fruit and vegetable consumption through a social marketing campaign - Go for 2 and 5.	Both these programs are provided on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Health to provide funds to the ACT Cancer Council to administer a youth smoking prevention program.	Funds were provided.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		ACT Health administers a number of health and well being grants programs that are available to schools and community groups.	These programs are provided on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Public Libraries provide collections for young people (including picture books, junior fiction, young adult fiction, and non fiction), which contribute to their health and well being.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
	Priority: Increasing awareness about access issues in government agencies, community organisations and the wider community. This should include availability, suitability, quality and cost.	DHCS to provide a new youth centre in Civic as part of the redevelopment of Section 84, Civic. The new youth centre will also incorporate the Junction youth health service that is to be co-located.	The construction of the youth centre was completed and became operational in August 2005. The redevelopment was a successful collaborative project involving private industry and a number of ACT Government agencies. Young people were consulted on the redevelopment of the youth centre and it's facilities and played a key role in the launch of the centre, "Club 12/25".
		DHCS to resource the development of education awareness programs with regard to the Privacy Act, duty of care and common law principles.	The Youth Coalition of the ACT was funded \$263,477 (GST excusive) in 2006/07 through the Youth Services Program to provide sector development, advocacy and representation and social policy development for the youth sector. The Youth Service Program sub-sector funding plan requires regular service visits with funded youth services. These meetings provide opportunities for services to discuss issues such as duty of care and privacy.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		DHCS to develop a discussion paper on options for improved information sharing arrangements across government agencies and community organisations.	The Children and Young People's Bill 2007 provides mechanisms for improving information sharing between Government and community agencies.
		The OFT to continue to encourage opportunities for young people to discuss any problems they may experience in accessing services.	Where possible, the OFT will assist people experiencing access problems by referring to an appropriate area. This service is provided on an ongoing basis by the OFT.
	Priority: Reviewing any area of existing discrimination faced by young people within the community.	DHCS will maintain a person-centred approach to working with young people, within a human rights framework. This framework provides that everyone is treated equally without discrimination due to difference in race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religions, political affiliation, disability or other status.	A Charter of Rights for Children and Young People in Care is currently being developed. The ACT Human Rights Commission was launched on 4 April 2007. The Commission includes a Children and Young People Commissioner with powers that include the ability to listen to and consult children and young people, to investigate and resolve complaints and to ensure the Human Rights Commission is inclusive of children and young people, and is accessible to them.
		OFT will investigate any matters raised by young people that suggest they are being discriminated against or being otherwise treated unfairly or inappropriately.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis by the OFT.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		The HRC to consult with young people and relevant advocacy organisations such as the Youth Law Centre.	These consultations are planned for 2007.
		DET will continue to have an ongoing commitment to addressing disability discrimination in schools.	<p>Every school appoints a teacher to the role of Anti-Sexual Harassment Contact Officer for students and Anti Racism Contact Officer for students.</p> <p>DET has undertaken significant and ongoing training for Departmental staff on the Disability Standards for Education.</p> <p>The contact officers receive specific training in the role each year. One aspect of the role is to educate students about anti-discrimination principles in schools and the wider community.</p>
		CMD is in the process of developing the ACT Audience Development ACT Statement 2008-2010.	The ACT Government acknowledges that most arts organisations funded through the ACT Arts Fund and visiting arts companies offer discounted ticket prices to events, specifically targeting young people and students to encourage youth attendance.
	Priority: Promoting awareness of issues uniquely experienced by young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, Aboriginal and	DHCS to provide networking initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff in government agencies and community organisations.	The Network of Indigenous Service Providers of the ACT meets 4-6 times per year to provide community organisations and government agencies with the opportunity to share information about what has happened, what is planned and what has worked/not worked.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
	Torres Strait Islander young people, young people with disabilities, young carers young people exploring their sexuality and young people experiencing homelessness.		The Vardon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group comprises representatives from the Government and Non-Government sector, including Indigenous officers from Government agencies and Indigenous community organisations. It meets 4-6 times a year.
		DHCS to establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services Unit in the office of Children, Youth and Family Support.	The Director, ATSIIS was appointed in July 2005 and the Unit was established in 2005.
		DHCS to ensure the needs of young carers is promoted through the implementation of the Caring for Carers Policy	<p>The <i>Caring for Carers in the ACT – A Plan for Action 2004-2007</i> (Action Plan) was developed to actively progress the objectives of the Caring for Carers Policy. An annual report of progress made on the Action Plan is tabled in the Legislative Assembly each year.</p> <p>A key priority of the 2006-07 Carers Recognitions Grants program was funding for projects that raise community awareness of the role played by carers, including young carers in our community.</p> <p>Due to the success of the Youth Coalition of the ACT, <i>Supporting Our Family Kit: for Children, Young people and families where a Parent has a mental Illness or Dual Diagnosis</i>, the Department supported the re-print of the resource to distribute to the broader community.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>DHCS will Implement actions in the <i>ACT Homelessness Strategy</i>, Which respond to the specific needs of young people experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>A youth homelessness working group of the ACT Homelessness Committee, in consultation with young people and community and government representatives, developed a draft Youth Homelessness Action Plan which provides targeted actions to address the needs of this Group.</p> <p>The Action Plan builds on previous research into ACT Youth Homelessness responses and outlines a series of diverse actions in early intervention alternatives to the SAAP refuge system and longer-term housing options.</p> <p>Actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creation of a youth Client service co-ordinator and a specialist youth housing manager within Housing ACT; • increasing young people's access to community housing; • protocol development to enhance service co-ordination and client outcomes; • providing Housing ACT gateway services within schools; and • provision of Outreach Services by Gateway Services to improve support for young people on the public housing waiting list.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Anglicare's 'Streets' youth outreach service was established in May 2004, providing case management support to young people at risk of or transitioning from homelessness. Streets receive \$138,683 per annum. The service supports up to 20 young people.</p> <p>Centacare's Homelinx Youth Housing Program supports young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to link with support service services that can assist them to access longer term accommodation options or manage existing tenancies. Homelinx receives \$213,749 per annum.</p> <p>The Narrabundah House Indigenous Supported Accommodation Service also provides accommodation options for young indigenous males who are at risk of homelessness and entering into custody.</p>
		<p>DHCS to ensure young people with disabilities are fully consulted in the finalisation and implementation of <i>Future Directions for Disability ACT 2004-2008</i>.</p>	<p>An invitation was extended to young people to attend the four consultation meetings on the implementation structure of <i>Future Directions: a framework for the ACT 2004-2008</i>. These meetings took place in April 2005.</p> <p>Information on consultation meetings was sent out to all key disability peak bodies and disability service providers.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>The OFT to continue to provide workshop and lecture programs that include content and cover issues and experiences that may be unique or most commonly related to young people from specific backgrounds or members of the youth population with special needs.</p>	<p>As appropriate, these young people will be referred to or assisted to contact an agency that can deal with their specific problems. This service is provided on an ongoing basis by the OFT.</p>
		<p>DET has a commitment to Indigenous cultural awareness training.</p>	<p>This issue is addressed by ELA 11 in the <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> curriculum framework which states:</p> <p>11. The student understands and values human diversity.</p> <p>DET also provides Indigenous cultural awareness training for all staff, with particular emphasis on the development of culturally inclusive curriculum initiatives.</p> <p>DET administers many projects designed to meet the particular needs of groups of students. One example is the Birrigai Boys Program which identifies Indigenous boys who are not achieving in the regular classroom and offers activities twice a week in an outdoor setting as an alternative to classroom based programs.</p>
		<p>CMD is developing the ACT Strategic Indigenous Arts Development Initiative.</p>	<p>The ACT Government, through ArtsACT, in partnership with the Australian Government, through the Australia Council for the Arts and its national Aboriginal and</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			Torres Strait Islander Arts Board, are implementing a strategic ACT Indigenous Arts Development Initiative.
		CMD employs Community Arts Officers dedicated to issues around Indigenous, disability and multicultural participation.	<p>The ACT Strategic Indigenous Arts Development Initiative recognises and acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the original ancestors of the ACT. Any reference to the ACT Indigenous communities includes both the Ngunnawal and other Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples residing in the ACT.</p> <p>The initiative will deliver a major project joint funded to \$40,000 that develops Indigenous arts and has long-term benefits for Indigenous artist's culture and the community beyond the immediate impacts. A Steering Panel of Indigenous artists and experts will recommend a project to the Chief Minister once the terms of reference are finalised.</p> <p>The process of consultation with the Indigenous arts community will also ensure that ArtsACT and the Australia Council for the Arts will better understand the interests and needs of ACT Indigenous artists.</p> <p>One of the key aims arising from preliminary meetings with stakeholders includes the need to focus on young and emerging artists.</p> <p>Community Arts Officers provide resources to the traditionally marginalised, including young people in these groups.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		CMD encourages Indigenous representation on the ACT Cultural Council.	The ACT Cultural Council has an indigenous member who contributes an awareness of indigenous issues to policy discussions.
		Mental Health ACT Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service will continue to work with a psychiatrist from Winnunga Nimmityjah with regard to assessment and treatment of young indigenous people.	This is provided on an ongoing basis.
		The Junction Youth Health Service to continue to provide education and support on health and wellbeing, addressing their needs with a specific focus on young people at risk.	This is provided on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Health to continue to support The <i>STEP AHEAD</i> program.	The <i>STEP AHEAD</i> program includes support from appropriate services such as Aboriginal Liaison, Social Work, OT's and other allied health professionals. The program facilitates referrals to the Sexual Health Service, TCH and is provided on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Health through the Canberra Hospital to continue to support the <i>SUPS</i> (Substance Use in Pregnancy support) program.	The <i>SUPS</i> (Substance Use in Pregnancy support) program supports young women with substance use issues, working closely with Drug and Alcohol services at TCH. The program is provided on an ongoing basis.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		ACT Health to continue a partnership arrangement between CYWHP (Nutrition) and Winnunga Nimmityjah.	This program increases the awareness of nutrition and dietary risk in the Aboriginal population (includes youth) and is provided on an ongoing basis.
		TAMS has established an Indigenous Interest Working Group, which aims to improve the service delivery and employment outcomes for people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, including young people.	Indigenous awareness cultural training is being made available for staff.
	Priority: Increase young people's access to public space.	The OFT to continue to take account of the needs and desires of young people in deciding the extent of regulation of various matters in public places.	This is considered on an ongoing basis by OFT.
		CMD will continue to promote the Public Art Program.	Inclusion of public art in the landscaping of the city enhances urban space and reflects Canberra's art and culture. Public Art place marks locations and creates a heightened sense of place and occasion and encourages gathering and activity in these spaces. Young and old Canberrans alike have access to these places and are encouraged to utilise them.
		TAMS, through the ACT Graffiti Strategy, ensure graffiti sites are available for legal graffiti and murals.	TAMS have established legal mural and community art sites within the community.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
<p>Transitions Transitions are any significant milestone a young person may face, including the move from education to employment, from family to independent living, from childhood legal status to adult legal status, from economic dependence to economic independence and/or transitions between services systems and the community. It is important to acknowledge that young people experience transitions in different ways and that young people may face multiple transitions.</p>	<p>Priority: Enhancing young people's involvement in education and training.</p>	<p>Implement the ACT Government Commitment to Young People.</p>	<p>\$3 million per year is provided to fund 10 Supported Accommodation Assistance Program services for young people. All SAAP services are designed to support people to transition to sustainable, long term accommodation.</p> <p>In 2006/07 the department will fund a number of supported transitional placements for young people leaving Quamby.</p> <p>The Adolescent Day Unit and Youth Connection provide a continuum of support for young people for up to two semesters to enhance educational participation.</p> <p>The YSP funds four community organisations; Anglicare Youth Education Program, Galilee Urayarra Indigenous Youth Skills Education Program, Gudan Gulwan Education Support Program and the Migrant Resource Centre's Program for After Schools Studies, to provide support to young people transitioning through their secondary education.</p> <p>The CPS Manual (2005) states that the foster care subsidy can continue to be paid for a young person after they have attained 18 years of age if they are remaining in the foster care placement and still completing their secondary schooling.</p> <p>During 2007 CPS is working with CREATE to develop leaving care kits for young people transitioning out of long-term</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>care. The aim of these kits is to provide practical support and information to young people to assist them transition into independent living. The design of these kits has been based upon the Tasmanian model.</p> <p>A longitudinal research project has been negotiated between the OCYFS and the Institute of Child Protection Studies to examine the experiences of young people exiting youth detention and to provide advice and recommendations on best practice options for transition planning. The research has commenced and it is anticipated that it will be completed in 2008.</p>
		<p>DHCS to continue to provide enhanced education, training and employment placements for residents of Quamby.</p>	<p>The enhancement of the program at Quamby is ongoing. Over the period 2004-05, the Hindmarsh Education Centre expanded its program to offer more variety as well as a broader curriculum.</p> <p>This has continued in 2006 with the introduction of a music program that is staffed by a music teacher (0.5 FTE).</p> <p>Staff of HEC and Quamby participated in combined Professional Learning in 2006 with Larry Brentro. The aim is to provide a whole of Centre social skills program in 2007 focusing on evidence based program called Response Ability Pathways. This program has been extensively researched and implemented in Youth Justice settings in the USA and is highly effective. The Thomas Wright Institute will provide the training in 2007.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>The process and development of Individual Learning Plans (ILP's) for all residents on committal has been formalised. ILP's identify specific areas of learning that need to be addressed and describes strategies on how outcomes can be achieved through the teaching learning process. This process has facilitated improved collaborative practices with case management when case plans are being designed and implemented.</p> <p>The art curriculum has been expanded to include a comprehensive visual arts program. An Art Exhibition featuring resident's work was a highlight at the end of year function. The exhibition has become an annual event. Delivery of competencies toward a Certificate 1 in Business has been provided by Caloola.</p> <p>The horticultural program with Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) is continuing in 2006-07 and with a stronger horticultural science focus.</p> <p>Discussions regarding supported transition to CIT and work have taken place as well as the creation of work experience opportunities for residents. Residents are able to achieve competencies that lead to Certificate II or III in Horticulture (Nursery) and Certificate II or III in Horticulture (Landscape).</p> <p>Development of a partnership and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Erindale College regarding the delivery of competencies and</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>development of a partnership with Kaleen High School for the certification of Year 10 Certificates has been secured.</p> <p>The partnership with Hindmarsh Education Centre (HEC) and the Indigenous Education Section (IES DET) for the provision of support to Indigenous residents aids in the improved transition for residents returning to mainstream schools in the ACT.</p> <p>The Complex Needs Team of Student Support Services in DET is supporting student transition. HEC has been involved in the DEST funded IVLOIS (Increasing Vocational Learning Opportunities for Indigenous Students in Juvenile Detention) national research project and will be seeking to implement the recommendations from the project in partnership with OCYFS in 2007.</p> <p>A Small Motors course with training delivery has been provided by CIT. Students are able to work toward and achieve competencies in hand tools, performing metal arc and service engines. Statements of Attainment are issued through CIT.</p> <p>Partnerships with CIT for the delivery of the Access10 will continue in 2006-07. Certification is awarded through CIT.</p> <p>The Australian Children's Music Foundation continues to offer a music program for young people in detention.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Issuing of Statements of Attainment toward a Certificate I in Furniture Construction has been formalised.</p> <p>The Information Technology (IT) infrastructure to a functioning student network has been up graded. New computers have been purchased as well as digital imaging equipment and an Interactive Whiteboard (IWB) for the delivery of a comprehensive Information and Communication Technology courses.</p>
		<p>The OFT will continue to provide the Youth Community Engagement program.</p>	<p>The program has a constant message that formal and informal education and training will provide both vocational and personal benefit, and that appropriate training is a great attribute to further employment and financial independence opportunities. This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>
		<p>DET to continue to provide Student Pathways Planning.</p>	<p><i>Student Pathways Planning</i> supports students as they progress through high school to college by promoting student engagement in learning and enhancing school pastoral care processes.</p>
		<p>DET to implement the <i>Every Change to Learn</i> Curriculum Framework.</p>	<p>The <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> curriculum framework addresses employability skills, futures planning for students and transition and career planning particularly through ELA 3.</p> <p>3. The student makes considered decisions.</p> <p>All ACT Government colleges operate as Registered Training Organisations (RTOs).</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>ACT high schools offer vocational programs in partnership with ACT colleges who operate as the RTO for these programs.</p> <p>High school and college students also participate in vocational programs at the Canberra Institute of Technology.</p> <p>Vocational courses in high schools and colleges are recognised on Year 10 and Year 12 certificates.</p> <p>The 2006 Board of Senior Secondary Studies Vocational Study indicates that 1451 vocational certificates were issued to students in government schools and colleges.</p> <p>Work experience programs are offered across high school and colleges and are opportunities for short term, unpaid participation in the workplace.</p> <p>In 2006 over 2700 work experience placements were undertaken by students from government high schools and colleges.</p> <p>In addition to work experience, vocational placements are undertaken by Years 11 and 12 students. Vocational placements involve structured training and competency based assessment, which occurs in the workplace.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>A total of 561 vocational placements were undertaken by students in ACT government schools and colleges in 2006.</p> <p>Vocational placements are brokered by the Student to Industry program.</p>
		<p>DET to develop an ACT Colleges Business Plan for 2007 - 09.</p>	<p>One of the priorities of the ACT Colleges Business Plan is to have a Year 10/11 transition coordinator from local high schools in each college during the first semester of each year, to support students transitioning from high school during their first semester at college. The Transition Strategies Subcommittee oversees this new program.</p>
		<p>CMD to continue to support the Young Achievement Awards.</p>	<p>The Department's support of the YAA program is aimed at stimulating young entrepreneurs and providing an alternative pathway (small business formation) as opposed to traditional pathways such as further education or employment.</p>
		<p>CMD to continue to participate in and support the Skills Commission.</p>	<p>The Skills Commission is seeking innovative initiatives to maximise the impact of existing training in the ACT and pathways for young people between school, training and education and work and increasing the participation of those young people marginally attached to the workforce.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Through its working groups, the ACT Skills Commission is looking into areas of acute and strategic shortages, including how to attract and retain young people and particularly women in ICT, for example, and other areas where skills shortfalls occur.</p>
		<p>TAMS through Recreation Services maintain a partnership with the University of Canberra for the implementation of staff training for the "Kids at Play" Program, involving sports studies and physical education students.</p>	<p>The partnership with the University of Canberra for support of the Kids at Play program has been consolidated with student recruitment for casual positions undertaken in August 2006 and February 2007.</p> <p>Kids at Play training has become an integral component of study within the second year curriculum for sports management.</p>
	<p>Priority: Equipping young people with necessary skills and supports to maximise opportunities and meet the challenges associated with transitions.</p>	<p>DHCS will develop and implement policies and/or programs that respond to a range of needs in relation to the Department's target groups.</p>	<p>DHCS has recently created two policies in relation to After Care Assistance. One policy will ensure consistency for 18 year olds after their orders have expired in relation to contingency payments. This includes items such as medical and dental services.</p> <p>The other policy will make the provision for continuation of subsidy payments to carers for 18 year old after their orders have expired to finalise their year 12 certificate.</p> <p>The OCYFS has procedures in place for when children and young people leave care. A designated position of Senior</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Compliance Officer is in place to ensure compliance with legislation, policy and practice.</p> <p>DACT continues to provide transition options for young people with a disability through their Post School Options Program.</p> <p>The Adolescent Day Unit and Youth Connection within DHCS, support young people early in year 7 to assist in the transition from primary to High School.</p> <p>The One Stop Shop assists Community Youth Justice (CYJ) case managers in addressing a range of needs of children and young people that contributes to offending behaviour.</p> <p>Young people are linked with community supports to provide a continuum of service during CYJ involvement and beyond. The One Stop Shop provides a centralised location in which a range of service providers operate. This allows young people to access the services when they are attending for court ordered supervision.</p> <p>The CYJ One Stop Shop provides drug and alcohol counsellors to assist young people with any drug and/or alcohol related issues including any underlying issues.</p> <p>Caloola (Employment and Training) assists young people to develop the required skills to enter and sustain employment and apprenticeship opportunities.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Within the Care and Protection Service policy and procedure manual, "leaving care" refers to a young person's transition from long term out of home care usually, at the expiry of a long-term care and protection order when they are 16 or 18 years, into independent living.</p> <p>The leaving care plan is developed as part of the Review of Arrangements process during the final year that the young person is in care.</p> <p>The leaving care plan is a live document that is developed according to the young persons needs and requirements throughout the year. The leaving care plan may involve planning for up to five years post order expiration.</p> <p>\$3 million per year is provided to fund 10 Supported Accommodation Assistance Program services for young people. All SAAP services are designed to support people to transition to sustainable, long term accommodation.</p> <p>In 2006/07 the department will fund a number of supported transitional placements for young people leaving Quamby.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		The OFT to continue to provide skills and promotes support in all its youth engagement activities, with a focus on alcohol matters, sensible consumer behaviour, and budgeting and financial management.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.
		DET to continue to provide transition support processes.	<p>A Post School Options seminar is held each year for students and their families to assist young people with a disability planning for their transition from school or college to employment or further training.</p> <p>Youth Support Workers in High Schools and Indigenous Home School Liaison Officers support students making the transition from primary to high school and high school to college.</p>
		DET through Student Support Services will continue to provide services based on individual needs.	Staff prepare individual plans to support transitions for students transitioning from preschool - K, Years 6 - 7 and Years 10 -11 and for young people at risk.
		Mental Health ACT Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service will continue to provide continuity of service from child and adolescent mental health services through to adult mental health services.	This is provided on an ongoing basis.
		The Junction Youth Health Service provides support and information to young people to assist them to become independent in identifying and meeting their health and wellbeing needs.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
	<p>Priority: Encouraging the development of skills related to goal setting, personal development and well-being.</p>	<p>DHCS to continue to develop case plans and to ensure these are developed with a client centred perspective and are developed in consultation with young people.</p> <p>Across DHCS services will liaise and consult with young people on their personal development and well being.</p>	<p>The YSP funds 16 programs to provide case management, case work or counselling for 'at risk' young people between the ages of 12 and 25 years. The priorities for the YSP are: enhanced personal resilience, increased skills, personal development and leadership abilities.</p> <p>The Adolescent Day Unit and Youth Connections within DHCS conduct programs covering social skills, life skill, personal development and nutrition and health.</p> <p>Community Youth Justice is implementing the Case Management Framework during 2007 – 08 which will ensure the active participation of young people in developing their case plans. CYJ will also be trialling assessment tools to improve targeting of interventions to address young people's criminogenic needs.</p> <p>Community Youth Justice One Stop Shop provides opportunities for young offenders to engage with services to achieve goals and promote personal development and well-being in relation to addressing drug and alcohol issues, anger management, general counselling and employment opportunities.</p> <p>All children and young people who are actively involved with Care and Protection Services have a case plan that is developed in consultation with</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>the child or young person and their family. The case plan is signed by all participating parties as an agreed working document and is reviewed every three months.</p> <p>Children and young people who are subject to care orders have a care plan that is formally reviewed regularly through Review of Arrangement Meetings. Children and young people are strongly encouraged to participate in this process.</p> <p>Case plans and care plans are designed to cover every facet of a young person's wellbeing and development, including social and emotional needs, familial needs, health, education, vocation and personal achievements.</p>
		<p>The OFT to continue to engage young people to promote the potential personal harm that can arise from medium and high risk behaviour involving alcohol.</p>	<p>This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>
		<p>DET to continue to provide Student wellbeing programs.</p>	<p>The <i>Every Chance to Learn</i> curriculum framework addresses student wellbeing through ELA 26.</p> <p>26. Essential Learning Achievements.</p> <p><i>Student Pathways Planning</i> supports students as they progress through high school to college by promoting student engagement in learning and enhancing school pastoral care processes.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Many schools use assessment processes, which require students to discuss their learning achievements with a panel consisting of staff, family representatives and community members. Programs such as Learning Journeys, student exhibitions and round tables take this approach. Students have the opportunity, through dialogue, to reflect on their learning and set new goals.</p>
		<p>Mental Health ACT Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service develop individual treatment plans in discussions with the young people under its care.</p>	<p>This is provided on an ongoing basis.</p>
		<p>The Junction Youth Health Service provides support and information to young people to assist them to become independent in identifying and meeting their health and wellbeing needs.</p>	<p>This service is provided on an ongoing basis.</p>
	<p>Priority: Strengthening relationships and personal support networks between young people their families and the community to assist with transitions.</p>	<p>DHCS to review the Post School Options program with the aim of strengthening the program to offer a more diverse range of support options for school-leavers who have a disability.</p>	<p>The Review of the Post School Options final report was released on 17 June 2005. Disability ACT is working with FACSIA and DEWR to address the recommendations of the report.</p> <p>DACT has worked closely with DET and the Disability Coordination Office to establish an Interagency Transition Committee (ITC), which works</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>to improve agency coordination, planning, and data collection for young people who have a disability and are leaving school, to improve the student's transitional outcomes and service responses.</p> <p>The ITC is holding a Post School Expo on 22 May 2007, which will inform students, families, teachers, and agencies about services and options that can assist school leavers who have a disability. The Expo was first held in 2006 and received very positive feedback.</p> <p>In July 2006 Disability ACT completed a service tender for a new daytime support service called <i>Frameworks</i>. The new service will provide community access, community inclusion and community development services for people with a disability who have left school.</p>
		<p>The OFT to continue to engage with young people via any invitation it receives to meet and address youth audiences.</p>	<p>These presentations feature the theme of the value and importance of family and community networks as support mechanisms for young people. This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>
		<p>The Restorative Justice Program to continue to foster and strengthen support to young people and their communities on an ongoing basis.</p>	<p>Restorative justice principles are based on repairing relationships and reintegrating young people into their community following a criminal offence. This is provided as an ongoing part of the Restorative Justice program.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		DET to continue to provide School based support services.	This priority is integral in all educational and extra curricular services and programs provided in ACT government schools.
		DET will continue to promote Community Partnerships Inter Agency visits and programs, excursions, peer support and transition camps.	Indigenous Home School Liaison Officers provide support to Indigenous students and their families. Youth Support Workers in High Schools work with students and their families to support ongoing education.
		Mental Health ACT Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service will continue to work closely with the families of young people in its care.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
		The Junction Youth Health Service actively participates in development of cross-sectoral networks to enhance support to young people.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
	Priority: Supporting young people to take an active role in shaping their own transitions through secondary education to further study and work.	DCHS supports young people transitioning through secondary education through the YSP, Adolescent Day Unit, Youth Connections, Schools as Communities and provides Community Outreach Workers to numerous schools throughout the ACT	The Adolescent Day Unit provides a support program for young people with a range of complex needs with case management, goal setting, family support and transition to College. DHCS Youth Connections provides an outreach support service to young people experiencing problematic attendance at school including case management and family support.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p><i>Schools as Communities</i> is a voluntary program that focuses on improving social and educational outcomes for children and young people by creating strong and effective working relationships between families, communities and schools.</p> <p>The program has Outreach Workers based on selected schools sites in the ACT. Community Outreach Workers assist schools and families by providing family support and community development.</p> <p>The YSP funds four community organisations; Anglicare Youth Education Program, Galilee Urayarra Indigenous Youth Skills Education Program, Gugan Gulwan Education Support Program and the Migrant Resource Centre's Program for After Schools Studies, to provide support to young people transitioning through their secondary education.</p>
		<p>The OFT promotes the development of life skills by informal and structured educational activities, many of which are provided by institutions and groups other than tertiary education agencies.</p>	<p>This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		DET to continue <i>Student Pathways Planning</i> .	<i>Student Pathways Planning</i> supports students to formulate goals and directions as they progress through high school to college and in to the employment sector.
	Priority: Acknowledging the role young people can play in supporting other young people during transitions.	DHCS will continue to fund LYNX to develop programs for young people centred on Peer Helper Skills.	Lifeline ACT received funding for the Lifeline Youth Networks (LYNX) program of \$61,981 (GST exclusive) for 2006/07 through the Youth Services Program (YSP). LYNX is funded to provide peer skills, community-based and capacity building projects for 'at risk' young people between the ages of 12-25 years.
		The OFT to continue to promote the value of peer guidance and support, and also highlights the possible impact of ineffective networks and inappropriate mentors.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.
		DET will continue to provide mentor programs within Schools.	<p>Various Government schools throughout the ACT operate mentoring programs as a part of their curriculum. These programs may be based on older students mentoring younger students in specific skill areas, such as sports coaching, literacy and numeracy and outdoor education programs.</p> <p>Stromlo High School also has a drug education program, which involves specifically trained high school students going in to local primary schools to provide classroom sessions and activities focusing on drug education.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
	<p>Priority: Recognising and supporting the unique transition points faced by young people with a disability and young carers.</p>	<p>DHCS will continue to support improvements for all students with a disability in the ACT and region through the services of a Disability Coordination Officer (DCO)</p>	<p>DACT has worked closely with DET and the Disability Coordination Office to establish an Interagency Transition Committee, which will work to improve data collection about the needs of young people who have a disability and are leaving school, and to improve service responses. \$25,000 of Digital Divide money from the Chief Minister's Department was provided to the Disability Coordination Office for upgrading their website, under contract from Disability ACT.</p>
		<p>DHCS to implement actions identified in the "Caring for Carers Policy Implementation Strategy", particularly those that benefit young carers.</p>	<p>The <i>Caring for Carers in the ACT – A Plan for Action 2004-2007</i> (Action Plan) was developed to actively progress the objectives of the Caring for Carers Policy. An annual report of progress made on the Action Plan is tabled in the Legislative Assembly each year.</p> <p>A key priority of the 2006-07 Carers Recognitions Grants program was funding for projects that raise community awareness of the role played by carers, including young carers in our community.</p> <p>Due to the success of the Youth Coalition of the ACT, <i>Supporting Our Family Kit: for Children, Young people and families where a Parent has a mental Illness or Dual Diagnosis</i>, the Department supported the re-print of the resource to distribute to the broader community.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>DHCS to undertake a feasibility study to explore the program options that would best suit young people aged 17-25 who have an intellectual disability and a mental dysfunction.</p>	<p>Disability ACT undertook a feasibility study in late 2004 to assess the needs of clients, aged 17 years & over, who have a dual disability (intellectual disability and a mental disorder/dysfunction), high & complex needs and are at risk of offending. The study identified the need to develop a specialist service to deliver intensive treatment and support, with recommendations for specialist accommodation options that will assist in meeting those needs.</p> <p>The Intensive Treatment and Support (ITAS) Service, commenced operation in August 2006. ITAS has established its operating procedures; including referral, assessment and appeal processes. Case co-ordinators are working alongside stakeholders to deliver a range of services to clients. A range of research, training and communication activities continue to be provided for internal and external stakeholders. Team membership will increase to full capacity within 2007.</p>
		<p>DET will continue to implement Individual Learning Plans (ILPs).</p>	<p>DET provides system and school based professional learning on ILP development and transition planning.</p> <p>All staff employed through DET are required to have a Professional Development plan.</p>
		<p>DET will continue to provide Transition programs for young people with disabilities.</p>	<p>Transition programs are implemented across all school years for young people with disabilities.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		CMD to continue to employ an ArtsAbility Officer.	The ACT Government funded ArtsAbility officer offers a range of support and advice to the region's disabled artists, including young disabled artists.
<p>Support Young people are supported and have access to high quality, appropriate and integrated service delivery responses. Young people's strengths are to be identified and acknowledged as a foundation to work towards desired goals.</p>	<p>Priority: Providing a wide variety of responsive and inclusive services to meet the diverse needs of young people.</p>	DHCS to provide additional funds to the Tuggeranong Community Arts Association to conduct the Messengers Program, which aims to build resilience in young people through arts, based programs.	The Tuggeranong Community Arts Association received extra funding for the Messengers Program of \$114,000 recurrently under a Service Funding Agreement with the OCYFS, valid until June 2007. Messengers' have expanded to incorporate the entire ACT region.
		The OFT to continue to provide flexible and diverse range of services to assist young people encountering problems and requiring a unique response. These services include advice, referral and advocacy.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.
		The Restorative Justice Unit to continue to work closely with community sector agencies and criminal justice agencies to support young people who participate in restorative justice,	Some of the processes that have evolved from these alliances include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management conferences for young people; • Shared monitoring responsibilities; and

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		either as victims of crime or as young people who have committed criminal offences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of an anger management program for joint clients. <p>The Restorative Justice Unit continues to provide support to young people through their program.</p>
		DET continues to implement Individual Learning Plans (ILPs)	In 2006 a guidelines booklet for ILP's was developed and distributed to all schools.
		DET will continue to provide ongoing professional development to its entire staff.	Ongoing professional development is provided for schools and the broader education community in the development and implementation of ILP's, including the inclusion of young people and carers in the process.
		DET is implementing a collaborative approach to service delivery of student support in 2007 called Cluster Based Support Services.	Cluster Based Support Services includes a targeted allocation of resources to schools based on identified areas of need.
		CMD funds and support various Key Arts Organisation initiatives.	Music For Everyone, a Key Arts Organisation funded by the ACT Government through the Arts Fund, provides a diverse range of learning and performance opportunities for all ages, abilities and interests. Programs have a particular focus on youth engagement and participation, while historically, the organisation has shown a willingness to adapt to the needs of their patrons, including their younger members.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		CYWHP to continue to link young parents by providing facilitated groups.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
Young people have the right to make individualised choices about the services and support they are receiving, whether from government agencies or community organisations.		DHCS to implement and evaluate the Turnaround program to provide intensive, integrated, multidisciplinary case management support for young people with high and complex needs.	A Final Evaluation Report of the Turnaround Project has been received and is under review and due for release in 2007.
		DHCS to enhance support for young people who are subject to Youth Justice orders through the provision of additional staffing which will reduce caseloads and improve the capacity to provide intensive case management; an increased focus on early intervention; and an expansion of existing programs and service delivery.	<p>Staffing levels in Community Youth Justice allow for case managers to have caseloads, which allow for effective supervision, report writing and oversight of interventions. However, staffing levels do not currently allow for interventions by way of program delivery to address specific offending related behaviours.</p> <p>Expansion of the One Stop Shop has increased the range of specialised interventions available to CYJ clients.</p> <p>During 2007 CYJ will trial assessment tools in order to determine the tool that will most effectively support CYJ's work in reducing young people's re-offending behaviour. The tools will assist in assessing criminogenic needs and the appropriate type of intervention response.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>DHCS to sustain funding for the Youth Support Workers in Schools Program and other support mechanisms for young people who are at risk of leaving school early such as Youth Connection, Adolescent Day Unit, government run alternative education settings and community based alternative education programs.</p>	<p>The Department of Education and Training has supported the Youth Support Workers initiative by funding both the school based positions and the team coordinator positions.</p> <p>DET has maintained one Youth Support Worker full time position for each mainstream high school setting. In addition, two of the three team coordinators are allocated part time to a special school setting and the other team coordinator is allocated part time to Amaroo School - in the early stages of developing their high school population.</p> <p>The Adolescent Day Unit has continued working with young people for one day per week at the Erindale facility supporting young people in their school environment for the remaining days. This allows young people to remain in mainstream schools for a majority of time to reduce isolation from their peers. The Adolescent Day Unit has two staff, one northside and one southside.</p> <p>Young people exiting the Adolescent Day Unit are offered a semester of Youth Connection support.</p>
		<p>DHCS to deliver the Youth Connection youth work service to young people who are at risk of leaving school early.</p>	<p>Youth Connection offers outreach support for young people experiencing problematic attendance at school. Schools are encouraged to advise the program as soon as possible.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>DHCS to fund early intervention programs for young people at risk through Youth Services Program.</p>	<p>The Youth Services Program (YSP) funds community organisations to provide services to young people between 12-25 years 'at risk' of jeopardising their physical, emotional or social development or becoming disconnected from the community. The YSP funds 25 programs with a budget of approximately \$4.7 million (GST exclusive) for 2006-07.</p> <p>Services which have had particular success in terms of adopting an early intervention focus include:</p> <p>LYNX (Lifeline Youth NetworX), RecLINK, CYCLOPS_{ACT} ("Connecting young carers to life opportunities and personalised support"), Messengers, Supporting Families with Adolescents, the Richmond Fellowship Family Counselling program and The Smith Family Learning for Life.</p> <p>The funded programs are funded under the YSP Sub Sector Funding Plan 2004/07 and will be included in an evaluation of the program in 2007.</p>
		<p>DET to continue to provide education programs at Quamby Youth Detention Centre.</p>	<p>The Hindmarsh Education Centre (HEC) at the Quamby Youth Detention Centre provides a fully integrated education curriculum for young people.</p> <p>DET provides support from the Complex Needs Team in the transition of young people from HEC to mainstream education, supporting education access for Turnaround clients and for</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			families involved in the Integrated Family Support Program.
		TAMS in partnership with DET to continue to fund and support the Road Ready Program that is designed to help young people in the ACT to obtain learner driver licences and become safer and more competent drivers.	This program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		TAMS in partnership with DET to continue to fund and support the Road Ready Plus Program that is designed to help young provisional licence holders to become safer and more competent drivers.	This program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		TAMS will continue the provision of school crossings to assist young people to cross the road safely.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
	Priority: Recognising and responding to the needs of young people involved with youth justice and child protection services.	DHCS to Review the <i>Children's and Young People Act 1999</i> , and amend as required	An Exposure Draft of the Children and Young People Bill 2007 was released for community consultation between 12 January and 9 March 2007. The Bill proposes significant policy changes across the Act, particularly in the areas of:

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care and protection of children and young people at risk of abuse and neglect; • The sentencing and sentence management of children and young people who have offended, including children and young people in detention. <p>The Bill will repeal and replace the <i>Children and Young People Act 1999</i> and will be introduced in the ACT Legislative Assembly later this year.</p>
		<p>The OFT to continue in all its engagements with young people to resolve matters and provide young people with the skills and experience that will enable them to both avoid a recurrence of their problem and to become leaders and influential persons of their peer groups and networks.</p>	<p>This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>
		<p>The HRC will monitor implementation of Human Rights Audit of Quamby Youth Detention Centre and make recommendations on amendments to C&YP legislation.</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring of the Audit and amendments to the C&YP legislation will occur by the HRC.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		JACS to provide funding to the ACT Aboriginal Justice Centre to coordinate a volunteer Aboriginal Interview Friends Program.	Funding has been provided by JACS.
		CYWHP will continue to provide medical and nursing services and health promotion to Quamby Youth Detention Centre.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
		CYWHP is participating in the development of the new Youth Detention Centre Health Care Facility.	The new Youth Detention Centre Health Care Facility is in development and is due to open in 2008.
		CYWHP in partnership with the Office of Children Youth and Family Support (OCYFS) participates in the Turnaround Program for young people with high and complex needs.	This partnership is ongoing.
		CYWHP provide health needs assessments for young people entering Out of Home Care or are on care orders within the Care and Protection system.	This partnership is being further developed in 2006-07.
		Mental Health ACT Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service to continue to provide psychologists to Quamby Youth Detention Centre.	Mental Health ACT Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service provide two psychologists for mental health assessment and treatment to the young people in Quamby Youth Detention Centre. This service is provided on an ongoing basis.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		TAMS Graffiti Program to continue to engage illegal graffiti artists in community art.	Young people are involved in program activities.
	Priority: Ensuring effective accountability and quality improvement and partnership processes are being utilised by government and community services working with young people.	DHCS to review protocols between agencies, such as SAAP providers and the OCYFS, to ensure responses to accompanying young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, are timely, well coordinated and responsive to individual needs.	In 2004 five regional youth centres and the Youth Coalition of the ACT received recurrent additional funding to provide service coordination which aims to promote greater public and target group awareness of services available for young people in the region, develop and support local community based activities, special interest and youth cultural groups, and coordinate the delivery of quality youth and community services.
		DHCS to conduct workshops with Youth SAAP and SAAP services that support accompanying children.	Two-monthly SAAP forums have continued in 2006-07, with an increased focus on sector and service system reform, and consultation. The Department commenced a 'Youth Pathways Project' to map current pathways into homelessness, identify blockages, policy, and service system changes and propose changes to the current service system.
		DHCS to provide evaluation and research the governance arrangements, Referral and Assessment processes and the practice methodology of Turnaround to inform wider integrated approaches.	A Final Evaluation Report on Turnaround has been completed and is currently being reviewed. A recent evaluation of the Turnaround Referral and Assessment Panel (RAP) by the consultants found general support for the RAP's current arrangements, but recommended the role be extended to allow it to have a

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>review and consultancy role (in addition to consideration of referrals to the Turnaround Program, and review of Turnaround Program clients). The RAP has adopted this function and have consulted on two cases.</p>
		<p>DHCS to fund a Practice Project Officer to inform evaluation methodologies for programs targeting young people 'at risk'</p>	<p>An evaluation of the Youth Services Program is progressing. An external consultant will oversee the process. This evaluation will consider the targeting of services to young people at risk.</p>
		<p>DCHS to implement a common client information system across Quamby and Community Youth Justice to support young people entering and exiting the justice system.</p>	<p>Redevelopment work has begun on the YJIS (previously known as JOIST) incorporating both the Community Unit and Quamby and is currently undergoing a review to improve reporting procedures and data collection.</p> <p>This work will include a re-evaluation of user access to Community and Detention Centre Data, modification to the system to improve printing & reporting outputs and aligning the data with national reporting requirements. The timeline for "reimplementation" of the improved system is in 2007.</p>
		<p>DHCS to encourage joint government and community initiatives to strengthen outcomes for young people in our community.</p>	<p>A new initiative in 2006 was the implementation of a One Stop Shop, which was a Community Youth Justice initiative. The One Stop Shop operates from the Community Youth Justice interview rooms on three afternoons per week, and involves workers from a range of other services who provide consultations to any client from</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support. Agencies involved in this initiative include Ted Noffs Foundation (Youth Drug and Alcohol Service), Directions ACT and Caloola (Employment and Training).</p> <p>The Turnaround Referral and Assessment Panel and Management Committee have representation from both government and community organisations. These forums provide ongoing opportunities for collaboration across government and community to improve outcomes for young people.</p> <p>In 2006, CYJ staff commenced training in the service delivery for the Youth Worker Out Reach Program (YPOW). This initiative is a partnership between DCHS and the Domestic Violence Crisis Service.</p> <p>CYJ staff have been integral to the progress of the YPOW initiative and continue to work actively at all levels of the project.</p>
		<p>DHCS to provide joint training opportunities and experimental working opportunities between government and community sector staff members.</p>	<p>The Office for Children, Youth and Family Support has offered in house training to external stakeholders including community sector staff. A range of staff have attended this training.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			In partnership with the Australian Catholic University, postgraduate study on offer to Office staff has also been made available to community sector staff such as the Graduate Certificate in Human Services (Leadership).
		DHCS to fund the Youth Coalition of the ACT to identify and improve the coordination of youth work in schools undertaken by community organisations.	The OCYFS funded the Youth Coalition of the ACT an additional \$40,000 recurrently. The Youth Coalition of the ACT conducted two surveys on youth work in schools which have been published on their website www.youthcoalition.net .
		The HRC to assist service providers to review and improve complaint resolution processes.	Implementation is planned for 2007.
		Mental Health ACT Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service to develop an early intervention guideline for seeing Children of Parents with a Mental Illness (COPMI).	Mental Health ACT Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service has developed an early intervention guideline for seeing Children of Parents with a Mental Illness (COPMI), recognising that obtaining early support and treatment for mental health problems and other problems can benefit and can help prevent those problems from becoming serious, long-term issues. This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
		ACT Health CYWHP to continue partnerships with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Education and Training; • Heart Foundation; • Mental Health ACT; 	These partnerships will be ongoing.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Children, Youth and Family Support (OCYFS); • Anglicare; and • Barnardos Australia (ACT). 	See above.
	<p>Priority: Providing services and programs that are individually tailored to meet the needs of each young person including the use of appropriate and effective case management practices.</p>	<p>DHCS to support substitute care services and Youth SAAP services to develop collaborative approaches to service provision.</p>	<p>An action plan developed by SAAP and Care and Protection Services in September 2004: <i>Improving outcomes for children and young people who are homeless</i>, outlines steps to improve service delivery to joint clients via enhanced service coordination. This action plan has informed the development of the Youth Homelessness Action Plan.</p> <p>The Youth Homelessness Action Plan will provide a range of actions to enhance responses to youth homelessness and includes relevant actions from the initial plan. The ACT Homelessness Committee will oversee its implementation.</p> <p>Community Youth Justice is implementing a Case Management Framework during 2007/08, which will ensure the active participation of young people in developing their case plans. CYJ will also be trialling assessment tools to improve targeting of interventions to address young people's criminogenic needs.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		DHCS to increase support for early intervention programs for young people at risk through the provision of additional funding to the Youth Coalition of the ACT and five youth centres to enhance their capacity to deliver services in a more coordinated and integrated manner.	In 2004 five regional youth centres and the Youth Coalition of the ACT received recurrent additional funding to provide service coordination. The funding aims to promote greater public and target group awareness of services available for young people in each region develop and support local community based activities, special interest and youth cultural groups, and coordinate the delivery of quality youth and community services.
		DHCS to fund a Practice Project Officer to develop and implement a framework for case management spanning both government and community sector youth service providers.	A Case Management framework is currently being developed that will provide an integrated service for young people who are clients of more than one area of OCYFS. This framework will then be extended to an integrated working model to partner with other involved agencies.
		DHCS to fund the Youth Coalition of the ACT to improve case management practice amongst youth organisations.	<p>The Youth Coalition of the ACT is funded to provide sector development based on priorities set out in the Youth Services Program Development Strategy. The YSP Planning Group has identified 'Case Management' as a key priority area.</p> <p>The Youth Coalition of the ACT provides ongoing representation on the YSP Planning Group.</p>
		DHCS to enhance exit planning for young people on release from Quamby Youth Detention Centre.	An expo was held at Quamby during Youth Week to showcase a range of community based and government support services. The purpose of this expo was to assist residents to role-play accessing services and to assist with the formation of important community ties prior to their release.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			A longitudinal research project has been negotiated between the OCYFS and the Institute of Child Protection Studies to examine the experiences of young people exiting youth detention and to provide advice and recommendations on best practice options for transition planning. The research has commenced and it is anticipated that it will be completed in 2008.
		The OFT to continue to provide information and programs on various matters for eg alcohol awareness. Programs can be tailored to meet individual needs if required.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.
		DET will continue the development of Individual Learning Plans for students identified as having additional needs.	ILP (Individual Learning Plans) are created for students identified as requiring additional resources. DET across schools also provides across-curricular whole school and classroom-based programs addressing topics such as anger management, negotiation skills, anti- bullying and wellbeing programs for these students.
		Mental Health ACT Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service to continue to work collaboratively with OCYFS, Department of Education and Training, Department of Health Community Care, and community agencies to provide a holistic approach to the treatment and care of young people.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		CYWHP to continue to partner with the <i>Throsby Eating Disorders</i> program for the provision of limited client services.	This partnership is ongoing.
		CYWHP to continue to provide the <i>Caring for Kids at Home</i> program.	CYWHP have a <i>Caring for Kids at Home</i> program, which provides health care for young people dependant on technology to allow them to participate more fully in their home environment and community. This program is provided on an ongoing basis.
		CYWHP to continue to provide therapeutic services to young people who have experienced abuse and neglect.	This service is provided on an ongoing basis.
	Priority: Providing support to young people that focus on strengths, interests, abilities and competencies.	DHCS to incorporate restorative justice principles into the <i>Children's and Young Peoples Act 1999</i>	<p>An Exposure Draft of the Children and Young People Bill 2007 was released for community consultation between 12 January and 9 March 2007. The Bill proposes significant policy changes across the Act, particularly in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care and protection of children and young people at risk of abuse and neglect; and • The sentencing and sentence management of children and young. of children and young people who have offended, including children and young people in detention. <p>The Bill will repeal and replace the <i>Children and Young People Act 1999</i> and will be introduced in the ACT Legislative Assembly later this year.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		Restorative Justice Program to continue to provide young people with options that reflect their abilities eg. community service work.	Restorative Justice agreements formed at the end of a conference reflect a young person's strengths, interests, abilities and competencies and often include programs and activities that benefit them. At the beginning of March 2007, young people completed 1734 hours in programs and activities that were aimed at addressing their offending behaviour.
		DET will continue the <i>Student Pathways Planning Supports</i> .	<i>Student Pathways Planning</i> supports students as they progress through high school to college by promoting student engagement in learning and enhancing school pastoral care processes.
		DET has funded teachers to obtain graduate certificate qualifications in Career Counselling.	Through the ACT Government Career Education Support Service initiative, 21 teachers have been funded to obtain graduate certificate qualifications in Career Counselling since 2003/4. Career Counsellors in ACT schools and colleges provide information and advice to assist students in identifying and enhancing their strengths, abilities and competencies and to consider these when making informed career choices.
		DET to continue to hold Careers Market Days or similar events for students.	The Canberra Careers Market 2006 was held in August and attracted over 52 school groups from across Canberra and the surrounding region. Over 7,300 people attended the market over two days.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		DET to continue to support the ANU Secondary Support Program.	The ANU Secondary College Program provides the opportunity for Year 11 and 12 students gifted in maths and science to attend extension classes on the ANU campus and have their marks accredited to an undergraduate degree at the ANU.
	<p>Priority: Improving young peoples access to safe, secure, affordable and appropriate accommodation with the necessary supports to live as independently as possible within or community.</p>	DHCS to fund outreach services for young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.	<p>Anglicare's 'Streets' Youth Outreach Service was established in May 2004, providing case management support to young people at risk of or transitioning from homelessness. Streets receive \$138,683 per annum.</p> <p>Centacare's Homelinx Youth Housing Program supports young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to link with support service services that can assist them to access longer term accommodation options or manage existing tenancies. Homelinx receives \$213,749 per annum.</p> <p>Additional funding of \$58,000 was provided to Gugan Gulwan to enhance its Reconnect program.</p>
		DHCS to implement the action plan between the SAAP sector and OCYFS to improve outcomes for children and young people who are homeless.	An action plan was developed by SAAP and Care and Protection Services in September 2004: <i>Improving outcomes for children and young people who are homeless</i> , outlines steps to improve service delivery to joint clients via enhanced service coordination. This action plan has informed the development of the Youth Homelessness Action Plan.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>The Youth Homelessness Action Plan will provide a range of actions to enhance responses to youth homelessness and includes relevant actions from the initial plan. The ACT Homelessness Committee will oversee its implementation.</p>
		<p>DHCS to undertake research to review the current supported accommodation models in the ACT for young people between the ages of 12-15 and 16-19 years of age who are at risk of homelessness or who are homeless.</p>	<p>Mr David McKenzie, national expert on youth homelessness, was engaged to review the youth SAAP sector to provide evidence-based recommendations on the range of service models, size and location required to respond to youth homelessness. This included an examination of the need for overnight crisis options for young people. The Youth Coalition of the ACT was engaged to undertake additional consultation with young people, in identifying responses to homelessness.</p> <p>The Institute of Child Protection Studies was engaged to research and report on <i>Children's Experience of Homelessness</i>. This report will be released in May 2007. A departmental response will subsequently be developed by DHCS.</p> <p>After extensive consultation with young people and the youth SAAP sector, the Youth Homelessness Action Plan will be implemented in 2005-06 and 2006-07.</p>
		<p>DHCS to support the redevelopment of Isabella House for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young men based on the outcomes of community consultation.</p>	<p>Isabella House has been redeveloped and is now known as the Narrabundah Indigenous Supported Accommodation Service. The Narrabundah Indigenous Supported Accommodation provides culturally based residential and integration</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>programs for Indigenous young men working in partnership with other Indigenous communities and related government and non-government agencies.</p> <p>The redevelopment of the service included a separation from Aboriginal Hostels Limited due to a need for a more appropriate model for the client group. The new staffing arrangements include Indigenous men and elders at the Service.</p> <p>The service is working on the model of respecting elders and positive role models. The service includes case management, which is primarily provided by Community Youth Justice.</p> <p>Narrabundah Indigenous Supported Accommodation Service has the facilities to accommodate up to six Indigenous young men, aged 10 to 18 years.</p>
		<p>The OFT to continue to provide regulation to the real estate industry and take into account matters raised by young people.</p>	<p>This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>
		<p>DHCS to develop a Steering Committee to address affordable housing.</p>	<p>The Government has formed a steering group to make recommendations on initiatives to increase the supply of affordable housing in the ACT. The group is expected to report to Government in the first half of 2007.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
	<p>Priority: Ensuring young people have adequate support in forming healthy relationships.</p>	<p>DHCS will fund early intervention programs for young people at risk through the Youth Services Program.</p>	<p>The Youth Services Program (YSP) funds community organisations for young people between 12-25 years 'at risk' of jeopardising their physical, emotional or social development or becoming disconnected from the community. The YSP funds 25 programs with a budget of approximately \$4.71 million (GST exclusive) for 2006-07.</p> <p>Services which have had particular success in terms of adopting an early intervention focus include:</p> <p>LYNX (Lifeline Youth NetworX), RecLINK, CYCLOPS_{ACT} ("Connecting young carers to life opportunities and personalised support"), Messengers, Supporting Families with Adolescents, the Richmond Fellowship Family Counselling program and The Smith Family Learning for Life.</p>
		<p>The OFT to continue to provide programs dealing with alcohol, sensible consumer behaviour and financial literacy.</p>	<p>This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.</p>
		<p>Restorative Justice Unit to continue to provide opportunities for young people to repair damaged relationships and reconnect with their community.</p>	<p>This is provided on an ongoing basis by the Restorative Justice Program.</p>
		<p>DET will continue to provide the Student Well being programs in schools.</p>	<p>Schools address this priority in a range of programs such as peer support programs, mentoring, and individual subject and KLAS including Health and PE.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
	<p>Priority: Providing for a range of support mechanisms for young people including mentoring and peer support.</p>	<p>DHCS to pursue the ACT Government's involvement in National Mentoring activities and strategies.</p>	<p>The National Youth Affairs Research Scheme (NYARS) is a subcommittee of the MCEETYA Youth Affairs Taskforce. NYARS' purpose is to strengthen the evidence base for youth policy and program development and implementation by the Australian, State and Territory Ministers and Departments responsible for youth affairs.</p> <p>NYARS is proposing to undertake a research project on mentoring of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) young people. The scoping project will focus on mentoring of Muslim and Horn of Africa (Sudanese) young people.</p> <p>The research will provide examples of good practice models of mentoring with particular communities and will describe how these programs have met the challenges and opportunities associated with CALD mentoring.</p>
		<p>DHCS to enhance mentoring opportunities available to young people 'at risk' of leaving school early in the ACT through pursuing the ACT Government's involvement in National Mentoring activities and strategies.</p>	<p>See above.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>DHCS to implement the recommendations from <i>The Territory as a Parent</i> review into ACT child protection services.</p>	<p>In May 2004, <i>The Territory as a Parent</i> report, a review of the safety of children in care in the ACT and of child protection management was provided to Government by Ms Cheryl Vardon (Vardon Report). In July 2004, <i>The Territory's Children</i> report prepared by Ms Gwenn Murray (Murray report), a report on the audit and case review of child protection matters, was presented to Government.</p> <p>The reports made a total of 113 recommendations. Government agreed, agreed in principle or agreed in part to 110 of these recommendations. Government did not agree with 3 recommendations.</p> <p>Regular six monthly implementation reports commencing in February 2005 have been provided to the ACT Legislative Assembly and are available to the community through the Departmental web site.</p> <p>Additional reports will be prepared as requested by the Minister, addressing five main themes of Justice and Community Safety (JACS). Other amendments with budgetary implications will also be considered in this Phase, including provision of support to young people exiting care, further strengthening of early intervention and prevention provisions and accreditation of family day carers and foster carers (including Police checks).</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Policy work is continuing for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working With Children Checks for the ACT. Working With Children Checks will involve obtaining information about potential employees and volunteers that is relevant to working in a child related area; • Increasing capacity to respond to community concerns about children and young people who are at risk of abuse and neglect; • Building better services; • Strengthening partnerships across government and with NGO's; and • Reducing the over representation of Indigenous children in the care and protection and juvenile justice systems, and Looking forward. <p>Government and specifically the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support have completed actions regarding 85 recommendations. Since the last six monthly report, 52 recommendations have been completed. Twenty-four recommendations continue to be progressed.</p>
		<p>DHCS to establish the Office of Children, Youth and Family Support, incorporating Child Protection and Youth Justice Services.</p>	<p>The establishment of the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support included preparation for a relocation from nine sites to a central point and the development of a strategic focus for the Office which sets out the purpose, services, clients,</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			partners, staff, values, principles, behaviour and strategic themes. The relocation occurred on 3 August 2005.
		DHCS to undertake annual monitoring of the number of young people who move between child protection and youth justice.	Procedures have been implemented to allow for regular monitoring of the number of young people who are both child protection and youth justice clients.
		DHCS to develop and implement models for alternative accommodation and support packages relevant to the needs of young people at risk.	<p>The <i>Youth Homelessness Action Plan</i> has a strong emphasis on early intervention and prevention and the establishment of alternative pathways to refuge accommodation for young people experiencing homelessness. Two actions, scheduled for completion by June 2007, will develop and implement a brokerage and support service to assist young people to sustain temporary accommodation where appropriate, such as 'couch surfing' with family or friends. This will be accompanied by associated education and awareness raising of these flexible support options.</p> <p>Additionally, the department will fund a number of supported transitional placements for young people leaving Quamby.</p>
		DHCS to undertake in conjunction with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community the identification of Aboriginal and Torres	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services (ATSIS) provide support for young Indigenous people who have become involved with the youth justice and the care and protection system.

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		<p>Strait Islander young people involved in both child protection and Youth Justice to develop and implement culturally appropriate strategies.</p>	<p>ATSIS may also provide family support for young people who have been notified to the Care and Protection system, but assessed as not needing statutory intervention.</p> <p>Case plans for the young people involve culturally appropriate strategies developed in partnership with the young person, and their families.</p> <p>Cultural Care planning processes are being implemented across the care and protection and youth justice systems. Training of staff in the use of these plans is an important component to their implementation.</p>
		<p>DHCS to pilot initiatives to improve integrated support to young people subject to both care and protection and justice orders.</p>	<p>Work will be undertaken on this strategy within this year.</p>
		<p>DHCS to expand the provision of case management and programs for young people on community-based court orders.</p>	<p>Budgetary constraints have not allowed for any reduction in the size of CYJ case managers' caseloads. However expansion of the One Stop Shop has increased the range of specialised interventions available to CYJ clients. Each of the services provided through the One Stop Shop has been selected because of its capacity to address factors related to offending behaviour.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>During 2007 CYJ will trial assessment tools in order to determine the tool that will most effectively support CYJ's work in reducing young people's re-offending behaviour. The tools will assist in assessing criminogenic needs and the appropriate type of intervention response.</p>
		<p>DHCS to provide improved accommodation and support services at Quamby Youth Detention Centre, which meet the diverse needs of young people in custody with regard to gender, age, special needs, and committal or remand status.</p>	<p>During the 2005-06 financial year the OCYFS acquired and installed two demountable units at Quamby to provide additional capacity (13 beds) for improved separation of young people at the Centre to better meet both operational requirements and the recommendations of the Human Rights Audit 2005.</p> <p>The Government committed \$40 million to build a new youth detention centre in the ACT.</p> <p>The NYDC is to be completed by June 2008.</p> <p>The New Youth Detention Centre will accommodate 40 residents, from the age of 10 to 18 years who are either remandees or under sentence. The centre will include accommodation, education and vocational program areas, indoor and outdoor recreation areas and administration and health services.</p> <p>Perumal Pedavoli, Architects, have been engaged to design of the new Youth Detention Centre.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
			<p>Perumal Pedavoli have designed a number of facilities in Australia and New Zealand, notably Dillwynia Correctional Centre, Marngoneet Correctional Centre, and Auckland Women's Corrections Facility.</p> <p>The Office for Children, Youth and Family Support (OCYFS) has completed all consultations with key stakeholders, including the community, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives, clients, staff and service providers at Quamby. Consultations will continue throughout the design process.</p> <p>A communications plan has been developed and is continuing to ensure that the community continues to be informed and has an opportunity to make comment on the design development process.</p> <p>The Development Application has received conditional approval. ACTPLA has requested additional information.</p> <p>The project manager for the New Youth Detention Centre was recently announced. Hindmarsh, an ACT based construction and project management company has been appointed as the project manager. Hindmarsh has successfully carried out a number of major constructions and development projects in the ACT, Australia and overseas.</p> <p>Work is expected to start on the site shortly. Completion is planned for June 2008.</p>

Outcome Area	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Progress
		Through direct assistance the OFT to continue to assist young people into peer and mentor support programs.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by OFT.
		The Restorative Justice Unit to continue to provide support to young people, before, during and after a restorative justice conference.	This is provided on an ongoing basis by the Restorative Justice Unit.
		DET to implement the Youth Support Workers initiative.	The Youth Support Workers initiative is a recent DET program, which enhances the range of services available in schools for students seeking support.
		DET to continue to support and encourage peer mentoring programs within schools.	Many schools operate a range of mentoring and peer support programs, which involve older students either from their own school or a nearby high school or college offering support for either learning or personal development programs.