



# Review of the Family-Based Post Care Programs Consultation Feedback for carers

## What this consultation was about

The Stability Post Care Team consulted with current family-based carers' in the program on the Review of the Family-Based Post Care Programs.

## Who we spoke to

To gain further insights into how Family-Based Post Care Programs were being received we spoke to current family-based carers within the programs, including:

- Foster carers
- Kinship carers
- Specific child only carers.

## What we asked

The consultation was focused on the following questions:

- Which program are you currently involved in?
- How do you believe the program is running?
- Do you have any feedback on the program?
- If there anything you would change within the program?
- DCP currently uses the term 'post care' when talking about young people in care once they turn 18 years old. Do you have a suggestion for another way we could word this?
- If you could change the name of the program, what would you call it?

## Our approach



Between 22 January and 13 February 2025, DCP used an online survey (also available as a hardcopy) to hear from family-based carers.



Carers currently involved in the Family-Based Post Care Programs were invited to complete the survey through email. Stability Post Care case workers were also provided surveys to complete with Carers during their home visits if carers preferred an in-person consultation.



45 carers responded to the online survey. This survey was a targeted survey only aimed at carers currently in the Stability Family-Based Post Care program.

## What you told us

Continuing the carer support payment has helped carers:

- support the young person to continue living at home with the high cost of living.



- Support the young person to live at home when they are not ready to move out.
- It has been essential in providing additional support to the young person.

Cares have mentioned they need more support providing support to the young person:

- Accessing mental health supports after young person turns 18.
- Continuing the special needs loading and specialist payments while continuing the program
- Support for assessments if not completed prior to leaving care.

**40% of carers believe the program is running extremely well.**

Removing the income threshold on the Stability Post Care Program to encourage young people to increase hours currently working.

Including Long Term Guardian (Specific Person) eligibility in the Over 18 Education Initiative.

Information session for carers to outline supports on offer once the young person turns 18.

**Suggested name changes:**

- Supportive family-based care program
- Continuing care
- Extended care
- Post 18 support
- Youth Independence Program

## What happens next?

Feedback provided by carers is being incorporated into the review of the Family-Based Post Care Programs. Feedback will also guide the next phase of implementation of this work, which will work to promote the Programs with carers and staff to support young people transitioning to adulthood.

We will continue to incorporate feedback into the development of the Family-Based Post Care Programs.



DCP sincerely thanks all who took the time to participate in these consultations and provide feedback.

**We appreciate you.**

**We hear you.**

**We're working on improvements.**