

Your reference: 248-03

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
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Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 19 March 2004 enclosing a copy of a petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly (No 248-03) lodged by the Honourable Kev Lingard MP, Member for Beaudesert.

I note that the petition seeks a review of the current policies and procedures under the *Child Protection Act 1999* and requests the adoption of a broad-based approach to responding to children's needs for protection.

In June 2003, the Queensland Government endorsed *The Strategic Framework for Child Protection 2003 - 2006*. This framework provides a foundation for policy and service development across state government agencies with respect to child protection. It is aimed at achieving better outcomes for children and young people who have been significantly harmed or are at risk of harm, and has a strong focus on prevention and early intervention.

An Action Plan to implement this framework was also endorsed. It outlines a number of initiatives that government agencies including the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Health, Education Queensland and the Department of Emergency Services will implement over the next four years.

In June 2002, the Queensland Government launched the *Queensland Families: Future Directions* strategy. This strategy committed funds of \$148 million and outlined the government's commitment to supporting and assisting children, young people and families to help achieve better outcomes for Queensland children, young people and families. Initiatives that are currently funded under this strategy are outlined in the attached document.

Petitioners can be assured that as a result of the recommendations of the recent Crime and Misconduct (CMC) Inquiry, the Department of Child Safety is to implement the child protection reforms as outlined in, *The Blueprint Report, Protecting Children: An Inquiry Into Abuse of Children in Foster Care*. The Blueprint prescribes sweeping changes to child protection policies and procedures, including those relating to voluntary care, access to therapeutic treatment, processes for responding to cases of suspected child abuse, and the recruitment, training and reimbursement of foster carers.

The commitment by the government in implementing the Blueprint for child protection reforms involves a total of \$201.6 million per year additional funding by 2006-07 which will bring Queensland's child protection funding above the national average (based on 2002-03 Productivity Commission data).

By December 2004, the Department of Child Safety will be established and fully operational as the government's lead agency for child protection. Improved outcomes for vulnerable children will be achieved through the following types of reforms that are additional to those effecting change to departmental policies and procedures:

- 518 additional staff for the Department of Child Safety over the next three years;
- 71 additional Commission for Children and Young People staff over the next three years;
- 23 new or expanded Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Agencies and a new Indigenous Support Branch in the Department of Child Safety;
- staged increases in payments for foster carers;
- alternative care for 680 young people who are not suited to conventional foster care (to be phased in over four years);
- more training and recruitment and retention strategies for frontline child protection staff; and
- more therapeutic services such as counselling and disability support for children in care.

I trust that this information if of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

**MIKE REYNOLDS AM MP**  
Minister for Child Safety

Enc

Our Reference: P/CS/02/04

**Initiative No. 2 – Program of Prevention and Early Intervention Trials**  
**Initiative No. 5 – Family Support Centres**  
**Initiative No. 10 – Responsive Placement Options for Young People**  
**Initiative No. 14 – Short Term Respite**  
 [Advertised August 2003; announced October 2003]

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Anglicare – TRACC</b>  <b>\$435,412</b>	TRACC Strengthening Families Program	<b>Caboolture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A trial of an 'Intensive Family Based Service' (IFBS), which promotes the safety and well being of children and young people who are at imminent risk of further entry into the statutory service system by strengthening the capacity of families to provide appropriate protection and care. Four workers and a coordinator based in Caboolture and Redcliffe will work intensively with families in their own homes over a 24 hour period, 7 days a week for up to 12 weeks to establish family goals that address the child protection concerns. This work will include counselling/therapeutic interventions, advocacy, and practical assistance, building social networks and connecting families within their communities.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Australian Red Cross</b>  <b>\$797,406</b>	Australian Red Cross - Playscheme Outreach Under 8's	<b>Brisbane</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The program offers support to families with young children under eight years in their own home by assisting parents and carers with a range of different parenting skills. Trial services are proposed for the Warwick, Townsville, and Taigum/Zillmere areas. The program is based on the prevention and early intervention framework and aims to enhance the parents own strengths through hands-on practical support focussing on communication, attachment and play interactions. The program will also focus on developing relationships between the family and their community and the family and the school, leading to positive experiences with the education system.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Brisbane YMCA Youth Services Inc</b>  <b>\$319,596</b>	Gold Coast YMCA Child Care Services	<b>Carrara</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This service will support families from the Nerang/Southport corridor and Gold Coast Hinterland with identified risk characteristics. The service will offer a mandatory parenting course - P5 (to be delivered by a culturally diverse team of presenters) and access to childcare/respite and playgroups at no cost to parents. The child care and play group carers will be trained in the P5 model and will act as mentors/role models for parents and also report at risk behaviours/indicators. The service will refer to other services to access counselling, household management skills, family therapy/mediation, advocacy and mutual support and self help. The P5 course will be delivered to families supported by other services also. This project is a joint submission linked to submissions Nerang Neighbourhood Centre and Trinity Family Support.</li> </ul>

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Brisbane Youth Service</b>  <b>\$252,000</b>	Parents YES - Young, Equal and Supported	<b>New Farm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This service will strengthen the capabilities of homeless young parents to safely care for their children, while providing the parents with the support they need. The service will target homeless under 25yr olds in the Brisbane inner-city area with problematic drug use and who are pregnant or parenting. In collaboration with New Farm Neighbourhood Centre the project will provide a range of services including: case management and coordination, housing assistance, practical support, drug interventions, short term respite care, employment training and skills development; health care, ante-natal support, peer support, play groups and recreational activities, and linkages with formal and informal support networks.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Bundaberg Area Sexual Assault Service Association Inc.</b>  <b>\$251,825</b>	Sexual Abuse Counselling Service (SACS)	<b>Bundaberg</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service will provide a prevention and early intervention service for children and young people (0-18 years) who have been sexually and physically abused, and their families and carers, to reduce the risk of harm to children and young people, and avoid statutory intervention. The service will offer: individual/group counselling for children aged 0-18; individual counselling/family therapy for carers of abused children; a therapeutic pre-school for children aged 3-5 years; counselling and support for foster children and carer families; community education; resources; and some outreach. The service will support the Bundaberg area incorporating Bundaberg and communities west to Theodore, north to Monto, south to Eidsvold and Childers, and along the coast to Seventeen Seventy.</li> </ul>
Responsive Placement Options for Young People	<b>Cairns Anglican Youth Services</b>  <b>\$650,000</b>	St Luke's House Responsive Placement Service	<b>Cairns</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This service will provide a twenty-four hour intensive therapeutic program that targets males aged between 12-18 years, who have high support needs and a history of presenting challenging behaviours, which has led to multiple placement breakdowns. The aims of the program include providing services in as normalised an environment as possible and the development of social and living skills essential in sustaining family and/or community placements. The service will work with other agencies to offer a collaborative effort.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Centacare Catholic Family Services Mount Isa</b>  <b>\$420,815</b>	Centacare Catholic Family Services	<b>Mount Isa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service will provide a support service to children and young people at risk of, or subject to, statutory intervention and families at key transition points who require extra assistance. The service will operate twice monthly in Cloncurry, Julia Creek, Richmond and Normanton and other areas as requested. Interventions will focus on skills development, education, counselling and support in areas including: parenting, gambling, alcohol or other addictions, protective behaviours, violence and abuse. The service will operate in partnership with the Aboriginal and Islander Catholic Council and Centacare Employment.</li> </ul>

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
Short-term Respite	<b>Churches of Christ Care</b>  <b>\$183,298</b>	Alternative Placement Support Service, Mackay/Whitsunday	<b>Mackay</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of respite to children and young people (0-17 years), subject to child protection orders, short term assessment orders and voluntary placements in the Mackay/Whitsunday and Bowen areas. Priority will be given to children and young people with challenging behaviours, mental health issues and disabilities. Two coordinators will focus on recruitment, training and support of respite carers. Respite will be provided for up to 20 days a year, in line with the Department's dual payment allowance.</li> </ul>
Family Support Centres for ATSI Families	<b>Darumbal Community Youth Service Inc</b>  <b>\$264,329</b>	Darumbal Community Youth Service Inc	<b>North Rockhampton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service will work with Indigenous families and youth to rebuild, strengthen and celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of families to take control of their own futures and reshape their own destinies. The service will also work with families to divert their children from the juvenile justice and the care and protection systems and to build the capacity of families to solve their own problems and to grow together. This will be done by: Family: Reconnections to assist families to address issues of conflict, anger management, financial management and personal growth and development. Youth Connecting with their communities will address issues of marginalisation and alienation; Cultural experience programs will be constructed with Aboriginal elders and other significant persons being trained as role models, mentors and life coaches; skills acquisition and development through work experience and information technology training.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Gladstone City Council</b>  <b>\$79,000</b>	Gladstone City Council - Community Advisory Service	<b>Gladstone</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project will provide a Counselling and Support Service, including face to face and crisis counselling, therapeutic group work and educational programs for children to 15 years and their families who have experienced domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. The Project will provide services in a child-centred environment and promote linkages to and liaison with other service providers.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Griffith University</b>  <b>\$181,025</b>	The Family Interaction Program	<b>Southport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Family Interaction Program will provide therapeutic interventions for Gold Coast families who are at risk, or engaged in child maltreatment. Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) focuses on establishing positive communication and effective disciplinary strategies for families with children aged 4 -8 years. The STEP program is aimed at children 8-12 yrs, who have experienced abuse or neglect and their caregivers. Training in PCIT skills will also be provided to foster carers to increase their ability to manage challenging behaviours and reduce likelihood of placement breakdown.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Kingston East Neighbourhood Group Inc</b>	Family Mosaics	<b>Slacks Creek</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service will provide support to families in the Kingston area using a case management approach. A mix of services will be offered and packaged in response to individual needs including: individual and relationship counselling, personal</li> </ul>

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	\$219,574			development, group therapy, childcare respite (0-5 years); home visits; parenting education; long day care program (parent and child); family group residential and brokerage of specialist services.
Short-term Respite	<b>Life Without Barriers</b> \$344,555	Life Without Barriers	<b>Shailer Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trial of a short term assessment and respite service for a small group of young people, to be attached to the existing Life without Barriers "Youth Program" servicing the five Department of Families regions that make up the Southeast corner of the State. The proposed trial would provide for the care of around four young people at one time, by a set of live-in carers in rented accommodation.</li> </ul>
Short-term Respite	<b>Lifeline Community Care</b> \$244,222	Cairns Shared Family Care	<b>Manunda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A short term family crisis and respite care program that institutes a holistic and comprehensive approach to strengthening families (natural, foster and relative) at a local community level, thereby resulting in enhanced child safety and well being adopting a continuum of care framework.</li> </ul>
Responsive Placement Options	<b>Lifeline Community Care</b> \$452,879	Lifestyle Support Services South-West "Erna's Place" project	<b>Ipswich / Silkstone</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Erna's Place will be established in a three bedroom home in Silkstone to provide placement options for up to three young people with challenging behaviours and or complex support needs.</li> <li>• Support to the families will include debriefing issues arising from the critical incidents which led to their child being referred to the service; involvement in the development of behaviour management strategies, training in the implementations of behaviour management plans and appropriate interventions; and support in developing practical skills to prepare for the return of their child. If this is not an appropriate option, transition plans will be developed to support the young person to achieve a sustainable alternative placement and to assist the young person and their family to develop meaningful processes for maintaining connection.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Lutheran Community Care</b> \$237,294	Regional Extended Family Services (Qld)	<b>Maroochydore BC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The service model will provide support to young people (10-18 yrs) and their families in the Caboolture and Redcliffe Peninsular Region. The three components of support are Family Relationships Support (therapeutic interventions, education and conflict resolution); in-home Family Support (parenting and living skills enhancement and material support); and Time-out Behaviour Modification Camps. Key features of the model are early acceptance of referrals, mobility and flexibility of service delivery, accessibility and flexibility of service hours (24 hour 1300 telephone referral centre), outreach, use of co-mediation, case management, community awareness, support for children, collaboration and service options for Indigenous communities.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Mercy Family Services</b> \$552,500	The New Families Program - Mercy Family Services	<b>Nudgee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program will provide support to young women aged 15-25 years, who are pregnant, or parenting a baby up to 6 months old, and assessed by DOF staff as being at risk. The emphasis will be on providing a continuum of support, consisting of 3 distinct components, each of 3 months duration, and each with clearly articulated</li> </ul>

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				<p>deliverables. The catchment area will include Brisbane City and Caboolture/Redcliffe regions.</p>
<p>Prevention and Early Intervention</p>	<p><b>Mission Australia</b>  <b>\$765,000</b></p>	<p>Project Circuit Breaker</p>	<p><b>Chermside</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mobile crisis response, family intervention and support service assisting families with children aged 10 - 16yrs. Services will include face to face intervention, practical support, case management, casework, mediation, conflict resolution, individual and family counselling, skills development, advocacy and referral. The main aim of the service is to enhance family functioning, improve family connectedness and reduce the involvement and need for statutory intervention. A multi-disciplinary team of family and youth workers will coordinate and directly provide services and support at times and locations comfortable and accessible to families (home, work, school, community service venues, departmental offices etc).</li> </ul>
<p>Family Support Centres for ATSI Families</p>	<p><b>Mununjali Housing and Development Company Limited</b>  <b>\$348,216</b></p>	<p>Logan River Valley Mununjali Family Support Centre</p>	<p><b>Beaudesert</b></p>	<p>Service activities will be based in the Beenleigh and Beaudesert areas and will include Healing and Intervention Services, Emergency Housing and Accommodation Support, and Family and Cultural Community Development. The Healing and Intervention Services will include family counselling and intensive healing program and children's intensive therapeutic program. The Emergency Housing and Accommodation Support will include short term safe housing for families and emergency short term respite accommodation for young people aged 12 - 17 years. The Family and Cultural Community Development will include cultural celebration and language and arts development; development of accessible occasional, long day care and family day care - Term Respite Child Care (up to 8 hours); accommodation options for outreach, health and specialist services and support and development of an elder's network.</p>
<p>Responsive Placement Options for Young People</p>	<p><b>Noosa Youth Service Association Inc.</b>  <b>\$169,843</b></p>	<p>Noosa Youth Service Association Inc</p>	<p><b>Tewantin</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noosa Youth Service Assoc Inc (NYS) is a non profit community organisation that provides a range of support services to young people and their families across the three shires of Noosa, Cooloola and Maroochydore. Integrated services of accommodation, education, training and personal development are currently provided to meet the diverse and complex needs of young people (aged 12 to 21 years) who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, disconnected from their families and the wider community and face severe barriers to education, training employment pathways. NYS proposes to build on this model by providing intensive 24 hour specialist support, supervision and therapeutic intervention for young people who are not suited to independent living or family based care. An existing house will be used with live in carers and on-site and off-site activities according to individual case plans. Activities may be delivered by NYS or in collaboration with other organisations.</li> </ul>
<p>Prevention and Early Intervention</p>	<p><b>Ruths Womens Shelter Cairns</b>  <b>\$225,693</b></p>	<p>Regional Outreach Support Programme</p>	<p><b>Bungalow</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project is a collaborative and coordinated service made up of the Women's Information and Referral Centre Cairns Inc, the Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service Inc, Ruth's Women's Shelter Cairns Inc and Warringu Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation. Services will be provided on an outreach basis within</li> </ul>

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				<p>Cairns and the surrounding area of Far North Queensland (north to Mossman and Port Douglas and south to Innisfail) and be available to clients for up to three months. These include outreach support including ongoing counselling; individual advocacy; referrals and linkages to appropriate services; development of household management, parenting skills and living skills; family (including extended family) support; mutual support and self-help; and community education and training.</p>
<p>Prevention and Early Intervention</p>	<p><b>Save the Children (Qld Division)</b>  \$206,795</p>	<p>Save the Children (Qld Division)</p>	<p><b>Brisbane</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Early Intervention Family Support Team will respond to families in crisis through bringing together the work of existing refuge and mobile Playscheme services. The service will work with families in two (2) refuges and four (4) caravan parks in Brisbane (Aspley, Redcliffe/Deception Bay, Inala/Wacol, and Eight Mile Plains). Families targeted include: those in transition escaping domestic violence, especially those families that have left very violent situations and are at risk of returning; homeless families and those at risk of eviction; families living in poverty with high neglect issues; and families where statutory intervention has occurred and is likely to reoccur without further support and assistance. Family support workers will engage with parents and/or children to provide relationship counselling, skill building, parenting skills, addressing drug/alcohol issues and domestic violence issues and engaging with support services.</li> </ul>
<p>Responsive Placement Options for Young People</p>	<p><b>Save the Children Fund (Qld Division)</b>  \$822,351</p>	<p>Wynnum/Redland Integrated Care and Support Initiative (WRICSI)</p>	<p><b>Brisbane</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This proposal builds on an existing partnership within the Wynnum and Redlands areas (WRICSI), which was established to develop an integrated, flexible out of home care placement and support service system for young people with intensive needs and their families. WRICSI was successful in its submission for Lighthouse funding to assist in its development. WRICSI is a partnership between non-government agencies and departmental offices. The non-government agencies involved include Save the Children, Anglicare TRACC South, Silky Oaks, and Bayside Adolescent Boarding Inc. The proposal is comprised of four key components: a head lease arrangement providing placements for 1-2 young people; Intensive Family Based Care for four young people; a residential care service for 4-5 children and young people; and, therapeutic intervention and support for 20-25 young people.</li> </ul>
<p>Responsive Placement Options for Young People</p>	<p><b>Sharehouse Youth Accommodation Program Inc.</b>  \$279,214</p>	<p>Sharehouse Youth Accommodation Program Inc.</p>	<p><b>Townsville</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The model will focus on stabilising the living circumstances and behaviours of a group of adolescents prior to a transition to more effective long-term care arrangements. There will be a maximum of 3 adolescents at any one time. The model will utilise a holistic/multi-disciplinary approach, including significant linkages with health and educational services, as well as access to key community supports and services.</li> </ul>



Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Sisters Inside Inc.</b>  <b>\$188,302</b>	Sisters Inside	<b>South Brisbane</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project will provide intensive support over a three month period to women who are released from prison and their children who are either in, or at risk of, entering a statutory system. The program will have three stages: preparation for release (4 weeks prior to release); intensive support (first 1-6 weeks post release); and provision of minimal support (7-12 weeks post release). The project will cover South East Queensland including the catchments of the regions of Brisbane City, Caboolture/Redcliffe, Gold Coast, Ipswich/Logan, and Toowoomba South-West and including the five women's prisons operated by the Department of Corrective Services.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>St Vincent's Community Services</b>  <b>\$195,931</b>	Goodna Integrated Family Support Service	<b>Goodna</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Goodna Integrated Family Support (GIFS) Service Model will provide support to families through: information on available services through a single, accessible point (an agency they already have contact with); access to counselling and support and advocacy services; access to a supportive model of collaborative case management for families with complex needs at risk of entering the statutory system. The service targets young students and their families in the Goodna area who are identified as being at risk, but not sufficiently linked to local services. Services will include assessment and case planning, counselling (individual and family), facilitated access to an integrated team of service providers, advocacy, information, outreach, and support for families. The project seeks to progress the project from an unfunded service (developed as a Lighthouse project) to a professionally staffed trial.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Sunshine Coast Women's Crisis Service Inc.</b>  <b>\$370,280</b>	Sexual Assault Service - Sunshine Coast and Gympie	<b>Maroochydore</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The program will: provide counselling and support to children, young people (and their non-offending carers) who have experienced sexual assault; provide education and information to other services/organisations regarding sexual assault and the impact on children and their families; and provide intervention to children (under 12) who display sexual offending behaviour following sexual abuse. The focus will be on strengthening family functioning to prevent further harm and breakdown in the familial unit and to develop a collaborative assessment and referral pathway with existing key agencies working with children, young people and their families. The service will provide interventions for children and young people as well as bring together key agencies for referral, case planning and inter-agency collaboration.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>The Spot Community Services Limited</b>  <b>\$367,535</b>	The Family Unit	<b>Browns Plains</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The program will support 'at risk' families within an intensive therapeutic-style community. Referred families will attend the home-like centre for at least two days per week for up to three months. The focus is on observing the patterns of behaviour and interactions within the family and assisting families in a practical, "on the spot" way to develop positive parenting styles. The program will provide parents with behaviour management and interaction skills through peer mentoring, 24 hour support by phone, promotion of family play, and personal development for parents. It will also incorporate other strategies such as a support group for fathers of young children, and holiday and after school activities for older siblings. The program will support 40-50</li> </ul>

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				families in the year, targeting high need families with children aged 0-12 years in the Logan area.
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Toowoomba Community Legal Service Inc.</b>  <b>\$187,900</b>	Toowoomba Community Legal Service Inc.	<b>Toowoomba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project will entail two distinct streams (Part A &amp; Part B) of activity: Part A will employ two youth and family workers (one indigenous male and one non-indigenous female) to ensure culturally appropriate service delivery. Primary objectives are: to function within a client focused framework; to act as independent brokers for provision of services to young people and their families; to access existing services within the community; to advocate on behalf of clients in relation to statutory reporting requirements and statutory case management; to liaise with DFS officers, police and courts; to provide information and referral to young people; and to offer services which are accessible outside business hours where necessary. Part B will engage an additional part time project officer who will work specifically to develop, implement and evaluate the anger and violence management program component of the project; produce a resource manual in relation to anger and violence management; support other project officers.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Services (TAIHS) Limited</b>  <b>\$235,620</b>	Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Services - Child Protection & Alternative Care Program	<b>Townsville</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project will involve trialing the extent to which short-term, intensive, hands-on, in-home peer support provided by local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families with child protection concerns can successfully address family functioning deficits, thereby alleviating the immediate protective concerns.</li> </ul>
Prevention and Early Intervention	<b>Whitsunday Community Services Inc.</b>  <b>\$326,161</b>	Whitsunday Mentor Support Program	<b>Cannonvale</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service will provide children, young people and their families with an innovative early intervention, holistic program developed and implemented to address their individual needs via assigning a mentor for the child while the family support worker engages with the caregiver. The service will support young people (aged 10-18 years) at risk of offending; young offenders and re-offenders; and young people experiencing barriers that impede their well being and engagement of family and community living. Referrals will be drawn from Mackay and Bowen area offices and other agencies in the Whitsunday area. Policies will be developed to respond to the culturally diverse client group. The program is based on an effective mentoring model operating in the Whitsunday region.</li> </ul>

**Initiative No. 4 – First Years Prevention Projects  
Collaborative Community Projects (Strand B)  
Toowoomba and Ipswich areas only**  
[Advertised October 2003; announced December 2003]

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Location</b>	<b>Service Description</b>
First Years Prevention – Collaborative Community Project	<b>Harristown State School P&amp;C Association</b>  \$ 73,500	Reconnecting parents with schools and improving parenting skills of 'at risk' families	<b>Toowoomba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project will support the development of parental competence in understanding and relating to children through:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 'Parents Matter' program which focused on understanding behaviour and developing healthy relationships with children.</li> <li>The 'Growing Together' program which focused on developing relational skills through play,</li> <li>Individual counselling for parents to support their parenting and with children aged 4-8 years.</li> <li>Deliver professional development programs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
First Years Prevention – Collaborative Community Project	<b>Leichhardt State School</b>  \$ 74,992	CCLASSY – Community, Capacity, Links, Awareness Support Service Year	<b>Leichhardt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project is aimed at strengthening families' capacity to bridge gaps and build on existing skills through accessing and using services that may be required to support their children throughout their educational years.</li> </ul>

**Initiative No. 25 – Encouragement for Innovation (Lighthouse Projects)**  
[Advertised October 2003; announced December 2003]

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Location</b>	<b>Service Description</b>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Catalyst Youth Arts Organisation Inc</b>  \$ 29,996	Access to Art - Infrastructure	<b>Pine Rivers, Caboolture and Redcliffe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Access ta Art Infrastructure Project, will deliver the following parts of the Access ta Art Strategy:</li> <li>Part-time employment of Access ta Art worker to support young people to participate in: New Grooves and the development of the Young People in Care project and other wider community based cultural events such as the RAPID Music Festival 2003, the Hungry Hill Studios( community based sound and video studios at Kallangur) and other arts based projects across the 3 shires;</li> </ul>

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation of Reference Group who will oversee this 12 month project and be key contributors to the manual and other initiatives to build the capacity and knowledge base of staff;</li> <li>• Creation of practical worker manual on initiating/ managing /making the most arts practice with the identified young people.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Centacare Townsville</b>  <b>\$ 22,126</b>	Train the Trainer - Jannawi Kids	<b>Townsville/Thuringowa; Mt. Isa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centacare Catholic Family Services in conjunction with the Domestic Violence Resource Service, the Department of Families, and Contact House realise that to maintain the best practice standards of their staff who work with children that these staff must have access to the most up-to-date training, knowledge and skills available. The Jannawi Kids package is an innovative and exciting program for working with children.</li> <li>• The aims are to bring a trainer skilled in this program to Townsville and Mt. Isa to provide training to local practitioners, and to produce a video for use by practitioners by December 2003, that is suited to the needs of children who have suffered abuse, neglect and/or domestic violence in the Townsville/Thuringowa and Mt. Isa communities.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Drug-Arm</b>  <b>\$ 30,000</b>	Inhalant Abuse Project	<b>Brisbane</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people and their families have access to improved services for preventing and responding to inhalant use. These responses will focus on reducing risk factors and increasing protective factors.</li> <li>• Provision of opportunities are provided for young people to participate in developing services for preventing and responding to inhalant abuse</li> <li>• Increased knowledge and skills for both staff of the Brisbane City Region and the local service providers in the areas of prevention and responses to inhalant use.</li> <li>• Increased understanding of how we can further improve services for preventing and responding to inhalant abuse and other serious behavioral concerns.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Gugu Badhun Ltd</b>  <b>\$ 30,000</b>	On Common Country	<b>Greenvale, Townsville/Thuringowa, Charters Towers and Atherton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A demographic analysis and assessment of the well being of the Gugu Badhun people in the Upper Burdekin region to include Greenvale, Townsville/Thuringowa, Charters Towers and Atherton.</li> <li>• The On Common Country social planning initiative aspires to achieve community well being for all regional stakeholders of the Upper Burdekin River area.</li> <li>• Sustainable social and economic wellbeing will be achieved by the development of progressive regional governance arrangements.</li> <li>• Focussed social, economic and natural environment planning, conducted through collaborative working relationships between the Gugu Badhun Aboriginal people and all regional stakeholders, will be essential for successful outcomes.</li> <li>• The Department is particularly interested in the opportunities the project presents for strengthening the community's capacity to raise and sustain levels of social and</li> </ul>

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
				economic well being.
Lighthouse Project	<b>Inala Community House</b>  <b>\$ 30,000</b>	Shared Family Care Volunteer Support Program	<b>Inala</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an innovative model volunteer support program tailored to the specific needs of foster carers and children and young people in care; recruit volunteers and conduct initial training.</li> <li>• The aims of this project are to develop a model that will:</li> <li>• enhance the quality of life for children and young people in care by developing a responsive volunteer support program.</li> <li>• enable seamless service delivery which promotes and facilitates best practice principles.</li> <li>• move away from an individualised agency with a specific or narrow focus to a more coordinated service delivery model working in partnership with the community.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Lifeline – Sunshine Coast</b>  <b>\$ 29,577</b>	SOS Youth Speaking Outside	<b>Sunshine Coast</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot the Provision of a quality youth advocacy service. This project will set up a creative, professional, responsive and early intervention focused 'one-on- one youth advocacy service' for those aged 12-19 years, with particular emphasis on those at school (using an action learning model).</li> <li>• Strengthen the learning capacity of staff and interested youth agencies to improve advocacy services/deliverables.</li> <li>• Set up and resource a reference group in partnership with Youth SITE to steer, evaluate &amp; sustain this project</li> <li>• Identify gaps and strengths in the Sunshine Coast's youth advocacy strategies.</li> <li>• Develop a working plan to enhance existing youth advocacy networks and sustainability of this network using an action learning model.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Logan West Community Centre</b>  <b>\$ 29,728</b>	Family Response Project	<b>Browns Plains</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trial a family support project to families who become subject to Priority Three and, lower level Priority Two notifications, through the Browns Plains Area Office (excluding the Beaudesert Shire) for an initial six month period.</li> <li>• Enhance the department's capacity to provide a prompt response to vulnerable families at an earlier stage than is currently experienced.</li> <li>• Divert vulnerable families from the child protection system to community based services</li> <li>• Take significant weight off Area Offices and reduce the incidence of re-notification in the client group</li> <li>• Trial the benefits of a brief intervention service to vulnerable families at an earlier stage than is currently experienced</li> <li>• Development of a brief family assessment tool similar to that developed by the South</li> </ul>

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
				Australian Child Protection service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate the development of a model that promptly assesses needs and facilitates linkages for at risk families</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Mercy Family Services – Fatima Centre</b>  <b>\$ 30,000</b>	My Family First	<b>Toowoomba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Reading Pack – abstracts and references that have informed the identification of best practice in working with parents whose children have been removed.</li> <li>An Interim Practice Template on which the first trial of the program will be based.</li> <li>Delivery and evaluation of the trial programs (8 x 2 hour sessions per course) to two groups of parents (between 6 and 8 persons in each group). The second course will incorporate learning's from the delivery of the first course, thus gradually refining both content and process.</li> <li>A Program Manual that should allow workers to duplicate the program in other settings.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Northern Peninsula Area Women's Shelter ATSI Corporation</b>  <b>\$ 30,000</b>	Evaluation of NPA SAAP & CAFS Programs	<b>Cape York &amp; Torres Strait</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employment of a worker/consultant to develop a tool of evaluation that will allow better analysis of program outcomes and data collection in the Child &amp; Family Support Unit (RAATSICC) and Women's Shelter (SAAP)</li> <li>The tool that will allow for improved measurement of work with clients, providing greater feedback for staff and a higher quality of information for the organisation's management committee allowing them to act appropriately in furthering the development of services for the community and responding more appropriately to the needs of clients.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Queensland Council Of Social Services</b>  <b>\$ 30,000</b>	Collaborative Community Management Models	<b>Mackay Whitsunday Region</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop 5 case studies of diverse community service organisations, provided with intensive support to analyse their management and governance problems and identify workable solutions</li> <li>Develop new management and governance models to adopt in community organisations with potential to improve business systems, decision-making processes and accountability of projects and programs</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Relationships Australia Queensland</b>  <b>\$ 30,000</b>	IMADAD	<b>Brisbane</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To research the issues of young dads in order to develop a range of resources/workshop materials to assist organisations to work with the target group.</li> <li>To develop a marketing tool, namely a Street Theatre production, to reach out to the target group, and link them with appropriate services. The production will be a short play with a storyline around the issues of being a young dad.</li> <li>To assist young men who have become fathers to deal with anger and/or other issues that may in turn, be directed at their child/ren in order to minimise the risks such as the risk of the father shaking their baby/ies.</li> </ul>

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
Lighthouse Project	<b>Silky Oaks Family Centre</b> <b>\$ 20,272</b>	Wynnum Area Child Protection Focus Group	<b>Manly West, Wynnum, Wynnum West and Tingalpa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a Wynnum Area Child Protection Focus Group</li> <li>• A database of key services, government and non-government, will be established, and contact will be made to encourage participation.</li> <li>• Training will be conducted, and an area conference held, to further encourage professionals to recognise the value of participation in the group.</li> <li>• A web site will be established enabling increased communication and accessibility to crucial information.</li> </ul>
Lighthouse Project	<b>Working Against Violence Support Service (WAVSS)</b> <b>\$ 27,654</b>	SHARES	<b>Logan, Beaudesert</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a Model for Sustaining Healthy Abuse-free Relationships Education in Schools, specifically:</li> <li>• A documented scope of the current service system</li> <li>• Identification of the gaps in service delivery</li> <li>• Specific integrated systems for addressing these gaps</li> <li>• A sustainable, non-fiscal service delivery model</li> <li>• Coordinated and integrated referral pathways between services working with young people around issues of safe and healthy relationships.</li> <li>• Reduction in the duplication of service responses to young people in secondary schools.</li> <li>• Increased coordination and stronger working relationships between service providers</li> </ul>

**Initiative No. 8 – Cape York Nurturing Families**  
 [Advertised September 2003; announced December 2003]

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Location</b>	<b>Service Description</b>
Cape York Nurturing Families	<b>Apunipima Cape York Health Council</b>  \$ 171,463	Reaching Out Project	<b>Manunda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project is a community development model aimed at up-skilling community based workers and offering prevention/early intervention services to the community by intervening with clients and families that are deemed at risk. It will also enhance capacity building by developing sustainability.</li> <li>The project will provide professional training , personal development and support to community based workers who work with families to deliver family violence education and on-going service delivery to Cape York community members who are experiencing or choosing to be violent and to deliver parenting and life skills education sessions to Cape York community members.</li> </ul>
Cape York Nurturing Families	<b>Aurukun Shire Council</b>  \$194,500	Aurukun Youth Training, Mentoring and Employment Program	<b>Aurukun</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project will involve the training and mentoring of fifty, 15-17year old Arakun youths in the construction and then management and operation aspects of a houseboat tourist venture. Training will occur in two phases, the first starting with the commencement of the project and the second six months later</li> <li>The first phase will consist of training and mentoring in the areas of carpentry, sewing welding and marine mechanics and will involve the actual construction of the houseboat.</li> <li>The second phase will start 8 months after project commencement and will involve hospitality and tourism training to facilitate the operation and management of a houseboat. This phase will also involve ‘experts’ in the relevant fields being brought into the community to conduct workshops and provide training.</li> <li>Expected outputs include a fully equipped houseboat ready for commercial operations, together with a pool of at least 15 young people skilled in the various activities required to manage the venture. The houseboat will be used to conduct small-scale tourism along the Archer, Ward and Watson Rivers. Those community members who contributed time or funds would also have the possibility to become shareholders in the venture.</li> </ul>
Cape York Nurturing Families	<b>Mapoon Aboriginal Council</b>  \$111.550	Mapoon Integrated Early Childhood Service (MIECS)	<b>Weipa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mapoon Integrated Early Childhood Service will establish a community facility to provide comprehensive and integrated early childhood services for children of the Mapoon community. The facility will provide services for children from birth to school age and the parents/carers with a focus on education, health, parenting and Family Support.</li> <li>Core programs will include services such as; ante and post-natal health checks, comprehensive baby, toddler and preschooler health and dental screening, baby and</li> </ul>



Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
Cape York Nurturing Families	<b>Napranum Aboriginal Community Council</b>  <b>\$132,864</b>	"Breaking the Cycle: Preparing Napranum Youth at Risk for Employment"	<b>Napranum</b>	<p>toddler playgroups, early childhood education, parent education, ante-natal education, baby and child development, baby and child health and nutrition, supporting early childhood learning; advice, counselling and referral – family crisis/family violence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This project targets youth aged 15-21 years and students not currently engaged in compulsory education, students unable to attend school due to expulsion, youth at risk of alcohol and substance abuse and youth at risk of incarceration.</li> <li>• The project will seek to provide educational, career and life skills pathways for the above target group and is part of the overall Community Actin Plan as recommended by Fitzgerald in the "Meeting Challenges Making Choices (Cape York Justice Study)</li> <li>• The program will deliver: Living Skills Development and Parenting Information through mothers ans babies program for girls 15-21 years with a focus on nutrition, caring for babies, education of mothers/potential mothers of the effects of alcohol and other substances have on pregnancy.</li> <li>• Domestic Violence issues will be addressed through DoF personnel and Council personnel (CAFS). Youth Development – the Youth Development Officer will work with identified clientele in a supportive and pathway directed manner. A program for economic opportunities aims to provide clients with the skills to successfully participate within the workforce and has direct links with local employers and educational institutions.</li> <li>• Role Modelling- Local indigenous people will act as positive role models as participants and will coordinate self esteem, conflict resolution and assertiveness training. This will link into the mentoring program currently conducted with the Western Cape College.</li> </ul> <p>Reduction of Juvenile Offences – clients will be positively engaged in constructive and purposeful activities which aims to empower them to make informed decisions. The reduction of boredom through participation in this program has been highlighted as a major factor in the prevention of juvenile offences.</p>
Cape York Nurturing Families	<b>Northern Peninsula Area Women's Shelter ATSI Corporation</b>  <b>\$118,000</b>	Parenting Skills for Youth - Social Skills for Parents	<b>Bamaga</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project is presented in two parts. Program 1 – Development and delivery of a program for youth at school so that they are aware of the responsibilities of becoming a parent and have some basic knowledge of parenting requirements prior to becoming a parent.</li> <li>• Program 2 – Delivery of information to parents on ways to encourage and develop better social skills in their children. Parents will recognise the need for appropriate modelling of desirable behaviours whilst participation in the program. Information will be delivered in a variety of ways including regular sequential workshops, one to one counselling sessions, information brochures and home workbooks.</li> </ul>

Initiative	Organisation	Service	Service Location	Service Description
Cape York Nurturing Families	<b>Pompur Paanth Aboriginal Corporation</b>  <b>\$166,451</b>	Moving Forward Healing the Past	<b>Prompuraaw</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project aims to conduct activities that will support families in their nurturing role by making families stronger and better able to deal with issues that impact on their daily lives in the future. The project will employ a professional worker and a community worker and will conduct a Community Healing Program.</li> <li>• The service will provide intensive family support to families and individual members of families and will include parenting programs and professional counselling. Referrals will be accepted from the Department of Families, Queensland Police Service, Education Queensland, Department of Health and the Community Justice Group.</li> <li>• The coordinator will be responsible for the development of case management plans and the coordination of local services.</li> </ul>