



# 7 RIGHTS OF SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

What is the standard of support from Home Stretch WA?

- 1.** Smooth Transition - From age 17.5, Home Stretch WA starts working with the young person and the important people in their life to get ready for turning 18. The goal is to make sure the young person's support continues smoothly through the Home Stretch WA program, all the way until they turn 21.
- 2.** Transition Coach - A consistent, reliable and skilled support worker providing flexible, one-to-one support focused on coaching a young person towards independence. Young People receive consistent support from Home Stretch WA service regardless of who is available.
- 3.** Support Circles - Supporting young people to build an enduring network of personal, family and community connections that includes the offer of assistance to map out connections to family, community and culture, and to be supported to reconnect with people from their past if they wish to do so
- 4.** Staying On - A continuation of payments and support to foster and family carers with an expectation that a young person will contribute to their living expenses from their independent income
- 5.** Invest in Me - Funding for the young person towards achieving their personal goals is provided through the coaching relationship and administered by Home Stretch WA service providers. You can get quick help with money if you are in a crisis. Home Stretch WA can help you learn about money support you can get outside of child protection - this means learning how to get help on your own in the future. You can also get money for things that help you connect with your culture. This can help you learn about your cultural identity and where you come from
- 6.** Housing Allowance - Funding support accessible to young people that can assist them to afford a broader range of living arrangements. Young people can access support to find and maintain safe, stable and affordable housing
- 7.** Young People are Equal Partners - Young people feel listened, heard and understood. Lived experience perspectives are valued and consulted before any decisions about how Home Stretch WA works. Young people know how to give feedback and share ideas or concerns, and there are clear communication channels within and outside Home Stretch WA Team and the District Office.



# 7 RIGHTS OF SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

What is the standard of support from Home Stretch WA?

1

## **Smooth Transition**

- When you are 17 and a half years old, Home Stretch WA (HSWA) will start working with you.
- We will also talk with the important people in your life.
- These might be your carers, case worker, or other support people.
- We will help you get ready to turn 18.
- We want to make sure your support continues when you turn 18.
- HSWA will keep supporting you until you are 21 years old.

## **Transition Coach**

You will have a Transition Coach who is:

- Skilled (knows how to help)
- Reliable (shows up and follows through)
- Consistent (there for you regularly)
  - They will give you one-on-one support.
  - This means they work with just you during your time together.
  - Your support will help you learn skills to become more independent.
  - Even if your main support worker changes, Home Stretch WA will still support you in the same, consistent way.

2

## **Support Circles**

- We help young people build a strong support network.
- This means having people in your life who care about you.
- This can include:
  - Family
  - Friends
  - Community
  - People who share your culture
- We can help you make a map of your connections. This shows who is important to you.
- If you want, we can support you to reconnect with people from your past. This could be family members or other important people.

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What support do I get from Home Stretch WA?

## Staying On

- Foster carers and family carers can keep getting payments and support after a young person turns 18.
- The young person is expected to help by paying some of their own living costs if they have their own income (like a job or Centrelink).

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## Invest in Me

- You can get money to help with your goals (like study, work, or learning new skills).
- You will talk about your goals with your coach.
- Home Stretch WA manages the money to make sure it's used the best way for you.
- If you're in a crisis, you can get quick help with money.
- We help you learn about money support outside of child protection, so you can get help on your own in the future.
- You can also get money to connect with your culture and learn about your cultural identity.

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## Housing Allowance

- Young people can get money (funding) to help pay for different places to live.
- This support makes it easier to choose where you want to live and what works best for you.
- Young people can get support to find a safe place to live.
- We also help you keep your housing so it stays safe, stable, and affordable.

6

## Young People are Equal Partners

- Young people are listened to, heard, and understood.
- Your life experiences and opinions are important.
- We ask for your views before making decisions about how Home Stretch WA works.
- You will know how to give feedback, share your ideas, or raise concerns. There are clear ways to speak up, both with:
  - – the Home Stretch WA team, and
  - – the District Office.

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