

# After Care Support

## What is After Care Support?

Aftercare support is help for young people who have been in Out-of-Home Care (OoHC) (such as foster care, kinship care, or residential care) when they turn 18 and start living more independently. It recognises that turning 18 doesn't mean you're ready to do everything on your own — and you still deserve support.

## What We Do

Yerrabi Yurwang's Empowering Families Program provide free and flexible After Care Support to Aboriginal young people aged 17 to 25 who have been in Out-of-Home Care (OoHC) and need some extra support to transition into adulthood. You choose your goals, and we walk alongside of you to achieve them.

## How We Support

We provide flexible, culturally safe support to help you move into adulthood after leaving care. You will be connected with a Yerrabi worker who takes the time to get to know you and understand what matters to you. Together, we'll make a plan that's built around your goals and goes at your pace. Support can stay in place until you turn 25. Your plan is reviewed every 12 months, and if things change or you want to pause, you can step away at any time— support is always your choice.

## What Support We Provide

All support is based on your goals and needs.

You can get help with things like:

- Finding a place to live
- Studying, training and getting a job
- Accessing counselling
- Learning life skills like budgeting and cooking
- Accessing and reading your care records
- Getting a driver's licence
- Connecting with family, community & culture
- Finances or referrals to other services.



## How To Refer

We welcome referrals from young people, families, and workers. To refer to our program, you can:

- Fill out the form at [www.yerrabi.org.au](http://www.yerrabi.org.au)
- Email: [referrals@yerrabi.org.au](mailto:referrals@yerrabi.org.au) or,
- Visit us at 245 Lady Denman Drive, Acton ACT





# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): Leaving Care Support

## Who Can Get Support?

Children Youth & Families (CYF) and ACT Out of Home Care (OoHC) agencies have a responsibility by law to provide assistance to care leavers who were in OoHC. This means, CYF and OoHC agencies:

- Must provide assistance, where it considers appropriate, to care leavers who are younger than 21 years old.
- May provide assistance, where it considers appropriate, to care leavers who are over 21 but under 25 years old.

## Continuum of Care Vs Aftercare Support?

There are two different types of support for young people who have been in OoHC:

- **Continuum of Care** is when you keep living with your carer after you turn 18. Your carer gets a small, tax-free payment to help meet your needs — like food, clothes or transport. It can continue until you turn 21. This support does not include a caseworker and will end if you move out. Yerrabi Yurwang do not provide the Continuum of Care as this is managed by the out-of-home care (OoHC) agency that provided case management, such as Barnardos, OzChild or CYF.
- **Aftercare Support** is different. It is for young people aged 17 to 25 who are leaving care or have already left. You get your own caseworker and support to help with things like housing, study, work, counselling, driving lessons, reading your care records and learning life skills. You can still get Aftercare Support even if you live on your own, with your carer, with friends, or with family. If you're an Aboriginal young person, you can choose to get this support from Yerrabi Yurwang.

## What is TILA?

TILA stands for Transition to Independent Living Allowance. It is a one-time payment of up to \$1,500 to help care leavers leave care and set up independently. TILA is managed by your ACS support agency (e.g. Yerrabi) — they make the purchases with you.

TILA can be used for things like:

- Rent or moving costs
- Furniture or whitegoods
- Study or work costs
- Driving lessons or car repairs
- Life skills courses (like cooking or budgeting)
- Other Items that help with your independence and wellbeing

