



### How we support volunteer mentors

We appreciate the time volunteers contribute to the program. We offer mentors ongoing support and supervision as well as regular mentor training opportunities.

Mentors are covered for liability by becoming registered volunteers with Jesuit Social Services.

If you have an interest in becoming a mentor or would like some further information, please contact our Mentoring Project Officer on 03 9791 6596 or 0408 566 122. Alternatively, you can email your enquiry to [mentoring@jss.org.au](mailto:mentoring@jss.org.au)

### Contact Us

Mentoring Project Officer  
54 McCrae Street  
Dandenong VIC 3175  
T: 03 9791 6596  
M: 0408 566 122  
[mentoring@jss.org.au](mailto:mentoring@jss.org.au)  
[www.jss.org.au](http://www.jss.org.au)

**Jesuit Social Services** is a social change organisation working to build a just society where all people can live to their full potential.



# Community Connections Mentoring



## What is the Community Connections Mentoring Program?

The Community Connections Mentoring Program connects young people who are living in or have lived in out-of-home care with a volunteer mentor from the community.

We aim to support young people to build a lasting positive relationship with a community mentor to support their transition to independence.

We recognise the resilience and strength of young people but also acknowledge that transitioning from care can be challenging and at times overwhelming. We work together with young people to build independence and increase opportunities for community participation.

We believe young people have self-agency, talents and aspirations and we are committed to being led by young people to support young people to thrive and move into sustainable, connected independence.

## Who is eligible?

To engage in the Community Connections Mentoring Program, young people must be eligible for Better Futures including:

- Being aged 15 years and 9 months to 20 years of age
- Being currently or previously on either a Family Reunification Order, Care by Secretary Order or a Long-term Care Order

The Community Connections Mentoring Program is delivered across the Southern Melbourne and the Bayside Peninsula Areas.

## How to get involved?

Young people can be referred to the Community Connections Mentoring Program by getting in contact with their Better Futures worker or contacting our service directly by calling 0408 566 122 or email us at [mentoring@jss.org.au](mailto:mentoring@jss.org.au)



## Becoming a mentor

Becoming a mentor is a great way to give back to the community and directly help a young person.

Mentors provide guidance, support and encourage young people to explore and work towards their aspirations and desired goals. This may involve supporting a young person to access opportunities and create connections within their community, build personal, social and emotional capabilities and reach health and wellbeing goals.

Mentors must be prepared to make a 12-month commitment to the program, and to participate in the recruitment process.

## What does the volunteer mentor application and selection process involve?

- Completing an application form
- Attending volunteer mentor interviews
- Referee checks
- Holding a valid Working with Children Check
- Completing a Police Check
- Disability Worker Exclusion Scheme (DWES) check
- Attending volunteer mentor training