

# Smooth Transition



Home  
Stretch  
WA

Date: 18-1-23

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# Acknowledgement of Country

**Home  
Stretch**  
WA

Ngaala kaaditj Noongar moort  
Keyen kaadak nidja boodja



We respectfully acknowledge the  
Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation  
as the Traditional Custodians of this land.  
We pay our respects to their strength,  
cultural resilience and the Elders past  
and present.

**Activity:**

**Walking in Two  
Worlds**

# Housekeeping & Rules of Engagement

**Home  
Stretch**  
WA



# What is Home Stretch WA?

The logo for Home Stretch WA is a circular emblem with a blue-to-purple gradient. The text "Home Stretch" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font at the top, and "WA" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. A decorative arc of white dots curves along the bottom edge of the circle.

**Home  
Stretch**  
WA

Home Stretch offers young people the choice to access higher levels of support until they reach the age of 21.

It extends the supports from the care system, without meaning young people have to stay 'in care', promoting interdependence.



## Access to Resources



[www.homestretchwa.org.au](http://www.homestretchwa.org.au)

## How to Contact Us



[homestretch@anglicarewa.org.au](mailto:homestretch@anglicarewa.org.au)



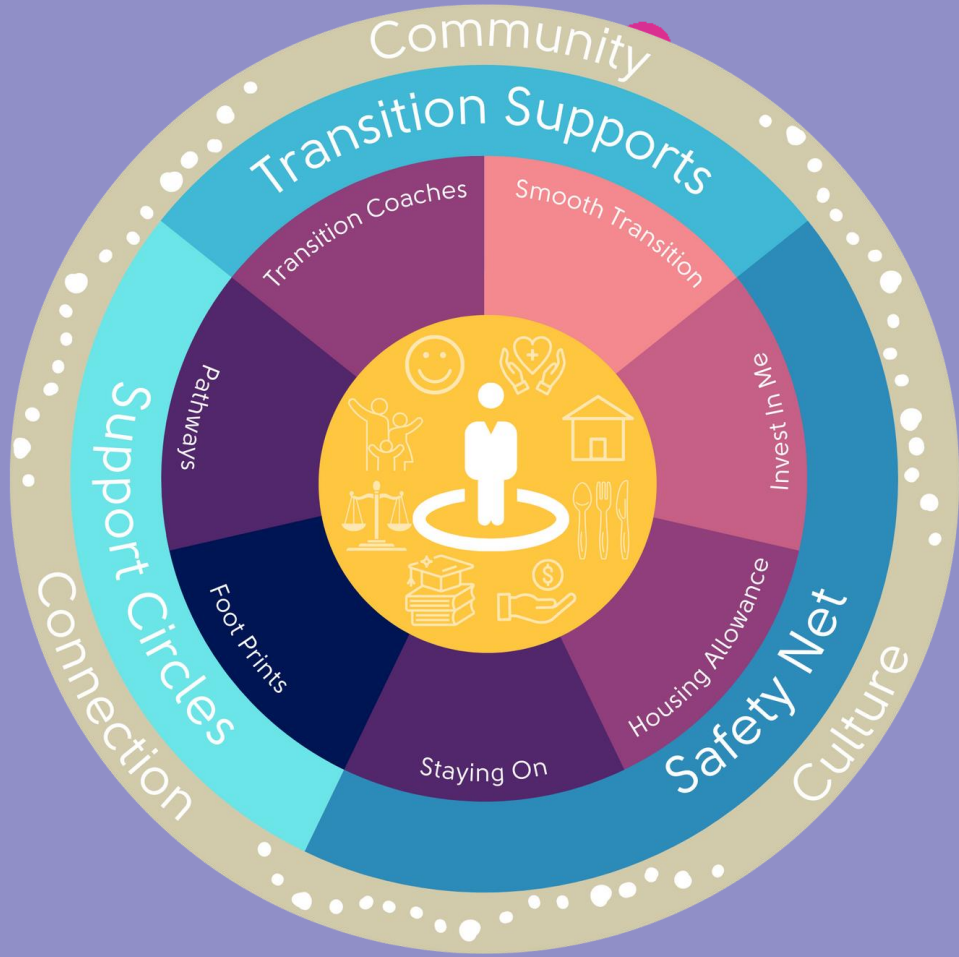
Andy 0413 207 096

Vanessa 0447 784 128

Renaë 0479 067 474

Jess 0486 041 786

# Home Stretch WA Model



Young people are at center of support. Everyone is treated as an individual



Support or connection is offered in all areas of life



Support is delivered in specific ways [Practice Approaches] that work for young people



Home Stretch WA focuses on 3 key elements of support



Home Stretch WA greater purpose is to connect young people with their community and culture.

# Home Stretch Practice Principles

The Home Stretch WA Practice Principles were developed by young people and every Home Stretch WA provider will work from these principles.

Young People  
are at the Centre





A reliable source of support is your right!  
It's your choice to join and you can choose to  
come and go.



Young People  
are at the Centre



You are the expert in your life, you deserve the freedom and respect to make your own choices.  
Our support is unconditional.



Young People  
are at the Centre

"Chipping In" is about young people taking charge. This means that young people are asked to invest in themselves - building their skills, knowledge and capacity.



Young People  
are at the Centre

You can make an informed choice about the support you receive from Home Stretch WA.

There are no shocks for you or the important people in your life.



Young People  
are at the Centre

Your coach will be consistent & persistent but not intrusive.

“Like a text message, not a knock on the door”.



Young People  
are at the Centre

Important moments & transition points  
in your life are acknowledged &  
celebrated.



Young People  
are at the Centre

## Culturally Safe.

Your supports recognize Aboriginal, and CALD young people must navigate between two worlds.



Young People  
are at the Centre

Home Stretch Practice Principles

Know your mob to know your culture.

When you're ready we will help you find ways to build your connection to family and culture.



Young People  
are at the Centre



Your Relationships are important.

The important people in your life can be part of your Home Stretch WA experience and we can support you to build new connections



Young People  
are at the Centre

Home Stretch will help you heal and  
connect.

When you are ready.



Young People  
are at the Centre

# Home Stretch WA - Transition Support

Transition Support is a key element of the Home Stretch program. Flexible, one-to-one support focused on encouraging towards interdependence

This support is offered through two practice approaches

Smooth Transition

Transition Coaches

# A Smooth Transition

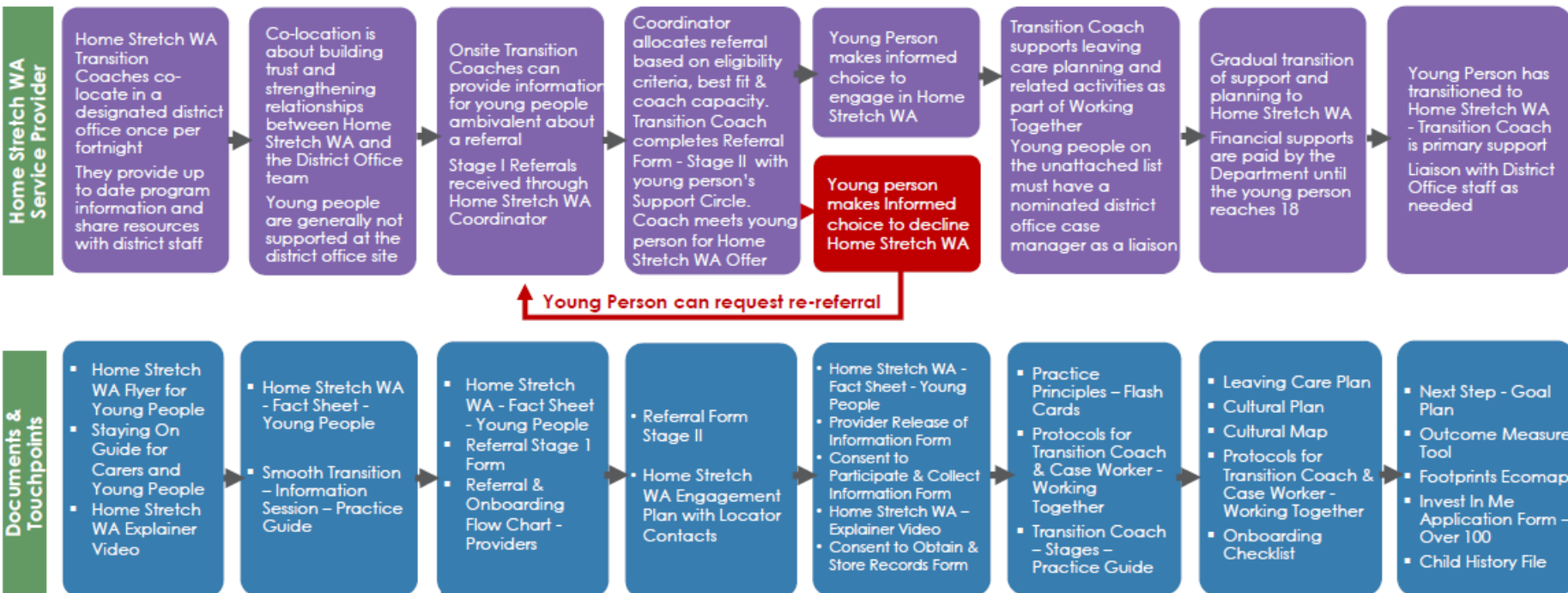
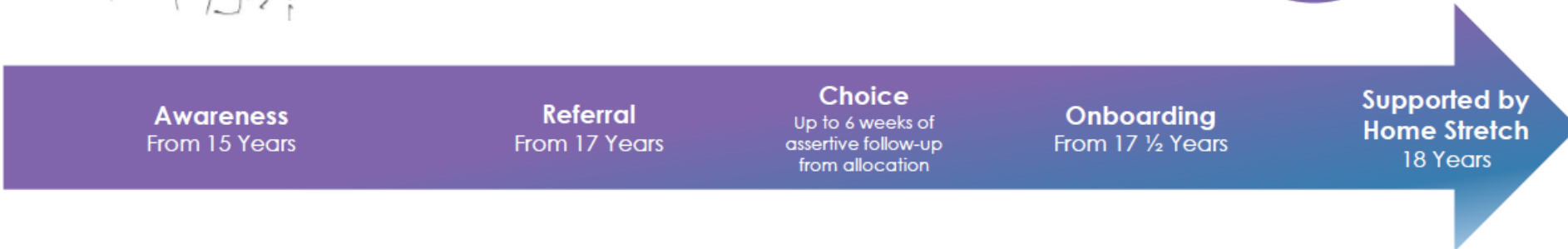
Working together with a young person and their support circle from age of 17.5 years to ensure a smooth transition into the Home Stretch WA program and a seamless continuation of support until the age of 21 years.

It's also about young people being aware of their rights and being able to independently access support they are entitled to after 21.

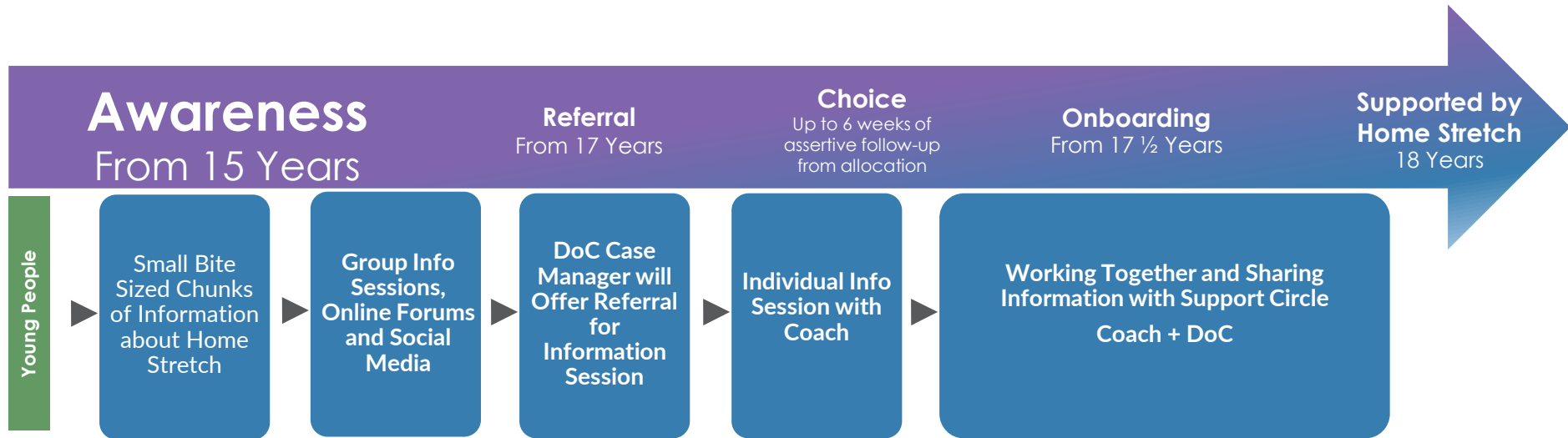




# How to Refer a Young Person to Home Stretch WA for Service Providers



# Smooth Transition Pathway



# Supporting A Smooth Transition

The Smooth Transition Pathway has been co-designed and developed to ensure;

- A warm handover between child protection and Home Stretch
- Avoidance of any unnecessary administrative burden on a District Office
- There are no shocks or surprises about the service offer
- Carers are involved and consulted
- Information shared at referral is contemporary and relevant.
- An **informed choice** is made by the young person at a developmentally appropriate time



You can make an informed choice about the support you receive from Home Stretch WA.

There are no shocks for you or the important people in your life.

Young People  
are at the Centre





## Awareness

From 15 Years

Information about Home Stretch is provided in small chunks as part of leaving care planning

This will be part of the work of the Community of Practice

Young People are advised they will be given the option to be referred to a Home Stretch Provider.

Carers and other people in a young persons support circle are provided information about Home Stretch and Staying On Agreements as part of early planning.

## Awareness

From 15 Years

# The Role of a Home Stretch Provider

No direct engagement with young people at this stage

Build Trust and Relationships across the system

- Help Create Digital Content for Social Media with young people in your program
- Map out the Key People in the District Office
- Hot Desk/Co-locate in the District Office
- Build a strong relationship with a District Office Home Stretch Champion
- Build Relationships with other Foster Care organisations
- Provide Up to Date information and advice about Home Stretch Services across the system.

Break down “Us/Them” perceptions by always focusing on young people

## Awareness

From 15 Years

# The Role of a Coordinator



Build Trust and Relationships with District Office Leadership

- Visit each district office on a regular rotation
- Establish protocols for Transition Coaches hot desking
- Manage Expectations and Demand for Transition Coach time

Check in with District Champions around health of relationships between teams.

Liaise with other Home Stretch services and Leaving Care Providers

Respond to enquiries about referral criteria and process

**Awareness**  
From 15 Years

# Touchpoints and Tools

Home Stretch Flyer for Young People

Staying On Guide for Carers and Young People

Home Stretch Explainer Video

Other Resources made by the Community of Practice



## Awareness

From 15 Years

## Young People Should

Be aware that they have a right to choose Home Stretch in the future

Ask questions of carers and case managers about their future living arrangements after 18 years of age.

Hang out with friends, get up to general mischief and behave inappropriately

**Not have to worry about 'leaving care'**

**Awareness**

From 17 Years

## Co-locating to Building Trust

Why would we want to co-locate in a District Office?

What would we need to be mindful of?

## Awareness

From 17 Years

## Case Study 1

You are spending the afternoon in one of the meeting rooms in district office, completing some paperwork and catching up with one of the case managers to do some joint planning around working together with a young person.

Simon is a child protection worker who works for a care team in a metro district office, he comes up to you and tells you that he has a foster carer who needs the Staying On subsidy paid or they will kick out a young person.

He hands you a completed Staying On application form and says he will document that he has completed the referral and authorised the subsidy.

**Awareness**  
From 17 Years

## Working Together With A District

### Emerging Ideas

Consider a 'By Name List' Approach to ensuring young people eligible and whether they have be offered to find out more about Home Stretch.

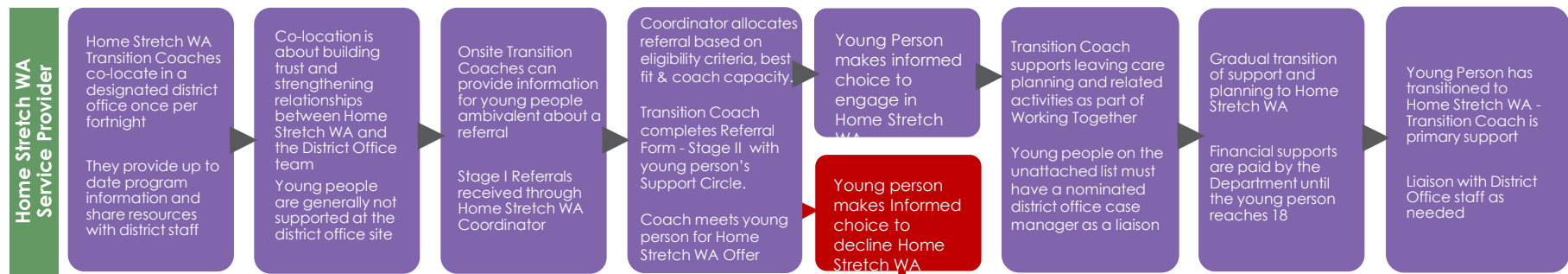
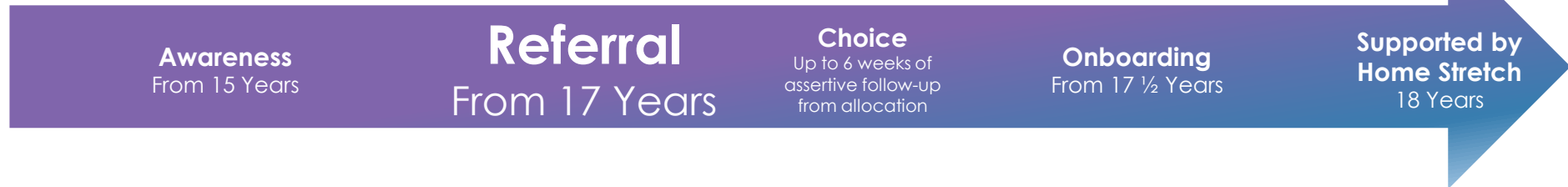
### Targeted Group Info Sessions/Yarning Circle for Specific Cohorts

- Young People in Regional Areas
- Aboriginal Families
- Foster and Family Carers with CSO Agencies

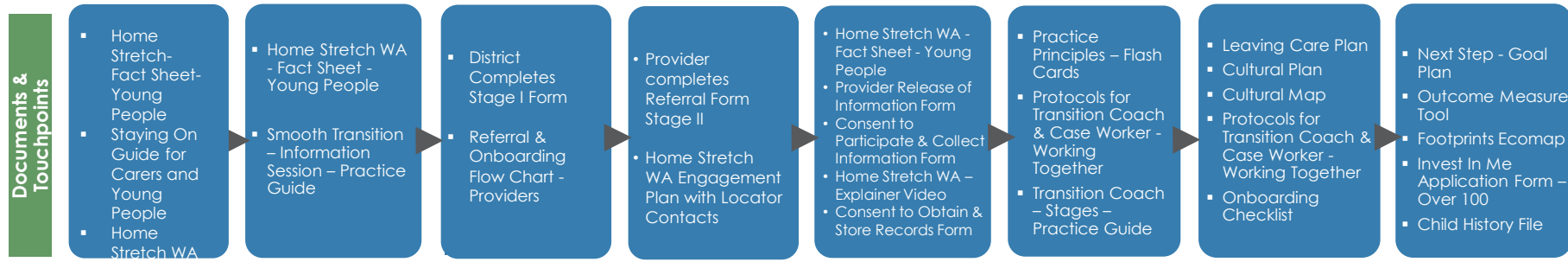




# Smooth Transition Pathway



**↑ Young Person can request re-referral**



## Referral

From 17 Years

# Supporting Warm Referrals

Referrals occur in discrete stages

## Stage I

– Connecting Eligible Young People with Home Stretch

## Allocation

- Referrals are allocated by coordinator to balance case loads and meet needs of young people

## Stage II

– Young People are Supported to Make an Informed Choice

## Referral

From 17 Years

# Supporting A Smooth Transition

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## Referral

From 17 Years

# Stage I – Referral Form

## Child Protection Leads/Home Stretch Supports

### Stage I

When a young person reaches 17 or anytime after, their case manager [or another district office staff member] will offer them the choice to be referred to Home Stretch.

With the young persons consent, basic information is recorded on the Home Stretch Referral form and sent to the Home Stretch Coordinator

The Stage I Form is standardised across metro and located on the Department of Communities internal SharePoint Site

**Referral**  
From 17 Years

## Stage I – Referral Form

**What would young people need to know before they would agree to meet with someone from Home Stretch?**

**What challenges do you see in the interim approach of requiring all referrals to be made by a District Office?**

**How might we overcome those challenges whilst maintaining integrity to the approach?**

Completed by a Young Persons Case Manager or the District Home Stretch Champion

Young Person is aged between 17 and 21.

Young Person is provided the Home Stretch Flyer and Home Stretch Video Links

Minimum Verbal Consent before referral is accepted.

Weekly Allocation/Response to Referrer

## Home Stretch WA - Metro Referral Form – Stage I

Young People living in the Perth Metro Area must give consent before this form is sent to a local Home Stretch WA service provider.

~~Salvation Army (Metro)~~ TBC    
  **Wanslea (Peel/Rockingham)** homestretch@wanslea.org.au    
  **Yorganop (Aboriginal)** referrals.homestretch@yorganop.org.au

| REFERRAL   |  | Date   |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Has the Young person agreed to this referral to Home Stretch?  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   | <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| Would the young person prefer an Aboriginal Service Provider?  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   | <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| Young person is currently engaged with Leaving Care Services?  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - tick agency   | <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salvation Army <input type="checkbox"/> Wanslea <input type="checkbox"/> Mission Australia <input type="checkbox"/> Other - |  |  |  |
| YOUNG PERSON'S DETAILS   |  |  |  |
| First Name   |  | Last Name  |  |
| Preferred Name   |  | Identified Gender  |  |
| Country of Birth   | <input type="checkbox"/> Australia<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other   | Date of Birth  | Age  |
| Cultural Identity  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/> CALD<br><input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal or Other Language Group - pls specify:  |  |  |
| Current Living Arrangement   | <input type="checkbox"/> Family or Significant Other care <input type="checkbox"/> Crisis/Temporary Accommodation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Independent Living/House Share <input type="checkbox"/> Biological parent/s or Unendorsed placement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Residential Care <input type="checkbox"/> Couch Surfing/Transient<br><input type="checkbox"/> Agency Foster Care <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br><input type="checkbox"/> Departmental Foster Care |  |  |
| Any Children?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No   | Are the children in their care?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Is the young person eligible to Stay On to 21 with a carer in a placement?   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   | <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| If yes, who currently supports the foster carer?   |  | Key Contact:   |  |
| What level of support was identified in the most recent Needs Assessment Tool? (NATS 1-5)  |  |  |  |
| Is the young person eligible or linked to the NDIS?  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input type="checkbox"/> Referral Considered<br><input type="checkbox"/> No  |  |
| What is the current frequency of support needed?   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than weekly<br><input type="checkbox"/> Weekly on average<br><input type="checkbox"/> Multiple appointments per week |  |
| What level of support might the young person need? (Refer to Table 1. Support Needs Rating and current frequency of support needed)                  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Low<br><input type="checkbox"/> Moderate<br><input type="checkbox"/> High   |  |

## Home Stretch WA - Metro Referral Form – Stage I

### CHILD PROTECTION/KEY CONTACT DETAILS - Who can best support a smooth transition?

|                 |                      |                |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Key Contact     | <input type="text"/> | Position Title | <input type="text"/> |
| District Office | <input type="text"/> | Address        | <input type="text"/> |
| Phone           | <input type="text"/> | Email          | <input type="text"/> |
| Team Leader     | <input type="text"/> | Email          | <input type="text"/> |

### ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION TO ASSIST WITH TRANSITION COACH ALLOCATION

(preferred gender of coach, Aboriginal community of origin, details about carer, risk issues for staff, current living arrangement, location, urgent or critical issues & support needs)

|  |                              |                             |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Would the young person and their support circle prefer an Aboriginal Transition Coach to introduce them to Yorganop? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Would the young person prefer a male or female transition coach for cultural reasons?                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

TABLE 1. Support Needs Rating Based on Experiences of Care

| Low  | Moderate  | High  |
|--|---|---|
| Experienced stability and continuity in their living arrangements                          | Experienced some instability, movement and disruption in their placements   | Experienced multiple placements, and little continuity or stability in placements                                 |
| Experienced consistent relationships and a secure attachment relationship with a caregiver | Experienced inconsistent relationships and attachments, likely to disengage from child protection at times        | Significant disruption in relationships throughout their lives, and a limited connection to trusted adults        |
| Completed schooling, or participating in ongoing education, training or employment         | Experienced barriers to engagement and success in education and training while in care with few/no qualifications | Lived through significant adverse childhood experiences, and complex trauma before coming into, or whilst in care |

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Young person added to Intake Register

### Outcome from Application (please tick whether referral has been accepted or not & outcome)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Referral Accepted     | <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss & allocate case to: <input type="text"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/> Allocation email sent to Coach & Child Protection Worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Referral Not Accepted | <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss case & exclusion criteria with ADD/Team Leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Advised of reason for decision in writing by email       |

Enough information to help a Home Stretch WA provider allocate to a coach.

Not so much information that a screening assessment is undertaken.

Designed to be quick and prevent bottlenecks at an administrative level.

## Referral

From 17 Years

## Allocation

### Prior to Allocation Meeting

- Stage I Referrals are Screened for Eligibility by Coordinator
- Additional Information is only sought to complete gaps in the form, or if there are issues with eligibility [NDIS]
- Details Recorded into Intake Tracking Database by the Coordinator [or delegate] for discussion at next Allocation Meeting

\*Coordinator Supports and Monitors Transition Coaches workloads to keep a balanced case load [40% low needs 40% moderate needs 20% high needs]



## Referral

From 17 Years

# Allocation Meeting - Weekly

- All new referrals are briefly presented and discussed for allocation
- Young People are allocated to most appropriate coach [consider support needs, gender, cultural identity, location relevant to coach]
- Young People with High Support Needs or Multiple Weekly Appointments are allocated a Secondary Coach
- Young People in Foster/Family Care Arrangements are also allocated to the Staying On Facilitator
- \*Coordinator Supports and Monitors Transition Coaches workloads to keep a balanced case load [40% low needs 40% moderate needs 20% high needs]

## Referral

From 17 Years

# Role of Staying On Facilitator

Young people eligible for a Staying On agreement will be allocated to both the Transition Coach and the Staying Facilitator.

The Staying On Facilitator will connect with carers supports and begin a parallel smooth transition process with carer supports, while the Transition Coach will focus on the young person.

The Staying On Facilitator must be involved in completing the Stage II with the carer or carers supports.

**Referral**  
From 17 Years

## Stage II – Informed Choice

### Home Stretch Leads/Child Protection Supports

#### Stage II – 6 Week Follow Up

The allocated Transition Coach contacts the person nominated in the Stage I form and collects enough information to understand how best to connect with the young person.

This might be the young person directly.

Information is collected and recorded in the Stage II Form to guide engagement and planning the info session.

\*The Stage II Form does not need to be completed in its entirety, though provides a useful resource to plan for engagement and continuity in supports.



## Referral Stage II Form

### Awareness and Informed Choice

The Transition Coach collects information from the individual best placed to support a smooth transition. It supports the plan to engage and connect the young person with the Home Stretch WA Offer and allow them to make an informed choice about the service.

This section can be completed via phone call, in person or via email to relevant worker.



| YOUNG PERSON'S DETAILS  |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| First Name  | Last Name   |   |
| Preferred Name  |   |   |
| Cultural Identity   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait Islander<br><input type="checkbox"/> Belong to another cultural group - pls specify: |   |
| Street Address, Suburb & Postcode   |   |   |
| Are there any outreach safety concerns?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - pls specify:<br><input type="checkbox"/> No  |   |
| Phone 1   | Phone's owner   |   |
| Phone 2   | Phone's owner   |   |
| Alternative Contact (email/messenger)   |   |   |
| Information provided to the young person about Home Stretch WA  |   |   |
| HEALTH/DISABILITY   |   |   |
| Any medical issues or physical, cognitive, developmental or mental health challenges?   |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - pls detail below <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Name of the condition/s, informal/formal diagnosis:    |   |   |
| Is there an NDIS Plan?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  |   |
| NDIS service or person supporting them?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - pls detail below <input type="checkbox"/> No   |   |
| Name of Person &/or Agency:   |   |   |
| Address:  |   |   |
| Email:  |   |   |
| EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT  |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Studying Full time<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not in education<br><input type="checkbox"/> Working casually | <input type="checkbox"/> Studying part-time<br><input type="checkbox"/> Working full time<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not currently employed                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Completing a short course<br><input type="checkbox"/> Working part-time<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Current education level completed?  |   |   |

Additional information is collected by the coach from the young persons support circle.

The purpose of collecting this information is to understand how best to connect with a young person.

The Stage II Form will begin some early screening of risk and support needs.

It is not a screening assessment.

# For young people eligible for Staying On

The Transition Coach and the Staying On facilitator work together to ensure the young persons family/carer is included.

| INCOME SOURCE  |  |                                     |                             |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Allowance   | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting Payment | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment |                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |  | Amount per fortnight \$ _____       |                             |
| SAFETY   |  |                                     |                             |
| Any safety issues through the people they are associated with? i.e. family, friends, partner                               |  |                                     |                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – pls provide details   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> No         |                             |
| Details: _____   |  |                                     |                             |
| CURRENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT & CARER/S OR SIGNIFICANT FAMILY MEMBER DETAILS  |  |                                     |                             |
| If the young person is living with a carer or significant family member, are they aware of and supportive of the referral? |  |                                     |                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> No         | <input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| Carer/Family Member  | _____                                      | Relationship                        | _____                       |
| Email  | _____                                      | Phone                               | _____                       |
| FOSTER PLACEMENT DETAILS (If applicable)   |  |                                     |                             |
| Address _____  |  |                                     |                             |
| How long have they been living in the placement?   |  | _____                               |                             |
| How many people in the living arrangement?   |  | _____                               |                             |
| Are there other young people or children in the placement?   |  |                                     |                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – pls provide details   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> No         |                             |
| How many, ages & relationship to young person: _____   |  |                                     |                             |
| Are there any other supports involved for the carer or significant family member?  |  |                                     |                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – pls provide details   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> No         |                             |
| Details: _____   |  |                                     |                             |
| Does the young person have a WWCC?   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Are there any concerns with the young person Staying On in this living arrangement?  |  |                                     |                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – pls provide details   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> No         |                             |
| Details: _____   |  |                                     |                             |
| FOSTER CARE AGENCY DETAILS   |  |                                     |                             |
| Agency Name  | _____                                      | Worker's Name                       | _____                       |
| Address _____  |  |                                     |                             |
| Email  | _____                                      | Phone                               | _____                       |



For young people with a Public Trustee or Advocate:

It is important that they are included in the process and decision making.

Home Stretch WA has a range of financial supports and its important to understand the limits a young person might have on decision making around finances.

| TRANSITION PLAN FOR CARER SUPPORTS   |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| What would be the best way to introduce and transition support to the Home Stretch WA Staying On Facilitator? (i.e. best location to meet, times, dates, joint sessions, key people)                   |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| CURRENT SUPPORT NEEDS OR AREAS OF CONCERN  |  |  |
| Are there any living arrangement issues or concerns which require additional support, or may affect the Staying On Agreement (i.e. conflict, siblings in care, AOD, NDIS support, health, financial)   |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| DETAILS OF OTHER SUPPORTS (If applicable)  |  |  |
| Agency   | Worker's Name  | Phone  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| RELEVANT BACKGROUND  |  |  |
| PUBLIC TRUSTEE / PUBLIC ADVOCATE (If applicable)   |  |  |
| Young person is involved with the <input type="checkbox"/> Public Trustee <input type="checkbox"/> Public Advocate   |  |  |
| Worker's Name  |  | Phone <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| Address  |  | Email <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| YOUNG PERSON'S CHILDREN/DEPENDENTS (If applicable)   |  |  |
| Name   | Age  | Date of Birth  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| YOUNG PERSON'S LEAVING CARE PLANNING   |  |  |
| Current leaving care plan  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                             | Leaving care meeting scheduled   |
| Current cultural plan  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Date: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| Independent Youth Allowance application  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                             | Current Criminal Injuries Compensation Claim   |
| Priority Housing Referral  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - pls detail below <input type="checkbox"/> No          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                                     |
| District   | Housing Zone   | Priority Listing <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                    |
| ENGAGEMENT PLAN  |  |  |
| What would be the best way to introduce the young person/family/carer to a Home Stretch WA Transition Coach (i.e. best location to meet, times, dates, joint sessions, key people)                     |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| MOST PRESSING ISSUES OR GOALS  |  |  |
| Are there matters that require a quick response? (i.e. risk of homelessness, justice issues, up-coming deadlines for opportunities, current goals & engagement - employment, study, hobbies/interests) |  |  |
|  |  |  |



The purpose of Stage II is to establish a culture of working together around the needs of the young person.

It should allow you to understand a young person's support circle, and how you can work with them.

If during Stage II you discover information that identifies a young person might be at immediate risk, or have significant challenges.

This should be taken back to the Coordinator and the Allocation Meeting

| OFFICE USE ONLY   |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Referral Form Stage II completed by Home Stretch WA Transition Coach or discussed with Key Worker  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engagement plan established & meeting booked to complete service offer & sign up   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engagement plan established with relevant Placement Officer/CSO Foster Carer Agency, Staying On Facilitator to complete Staying On Agreement meeting (if applicable) |
| KEY RESOURCES/DOCUMENTS   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Stretch WA Flyer - Fact Sheet - Young People  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staying On – Guide for Carers and Young People   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Stretch WA – Smooth Transition - Explainer Video  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Stretch WA – Protocols for Transition Coach and Case Worker- Working Together   |
| OUTCOME FROM REFERRAL FORM STAGE II   |
| YOUNG PERSON ACCEPTS HOME STRETCH WA OFFER  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Referral Form - Stage I & II reviewed and completed with young person as appropriate   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young person signs Consent to Obtain and Store Records Form  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young person signs Consent to Participate & Collect Information Form   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young person signs Provider Release of Information Form  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email sent to Child Protection worker, Team Leader, Placement Officer/CSO Foster Care Agency, Home Stretch WA Coordinator to advise of sign up                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email sent to relevant Leaving Care Provider (if applicable) to advise of sign up  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting booked to establish Onboarding & Working Together Protocols  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting booked for Staying On Agreement (if applicable)  |
| YOUNG PERSON DOES NOT ACCEPT HOME STRETCH WA OFFER  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email sent to Child Protection Worker, Placement Officer/CSO Foster Care Agency, and Home Stretch WA Coordinator to advise of outcome                                |

**Referral**  
From 17 Years

## Stage II – Informed Choice

The co-design of Smooth Transition defined a 6 week time frame from allocation to onboarding. This can be extended based on special circumstances.

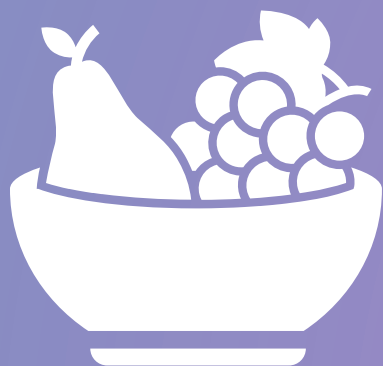
Why do you think a 6-week time frame was decided?

What challenges are there to engaging young people within a 6 week period.



# Break Time

Home  
Stretch  
WA

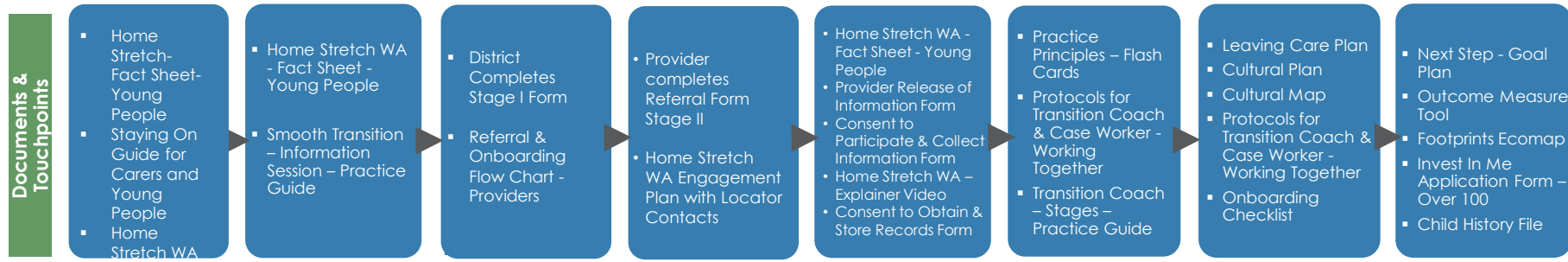
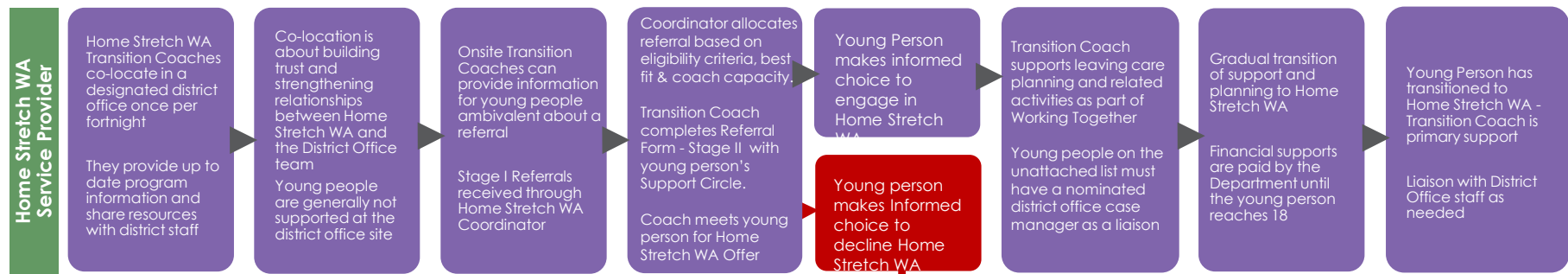
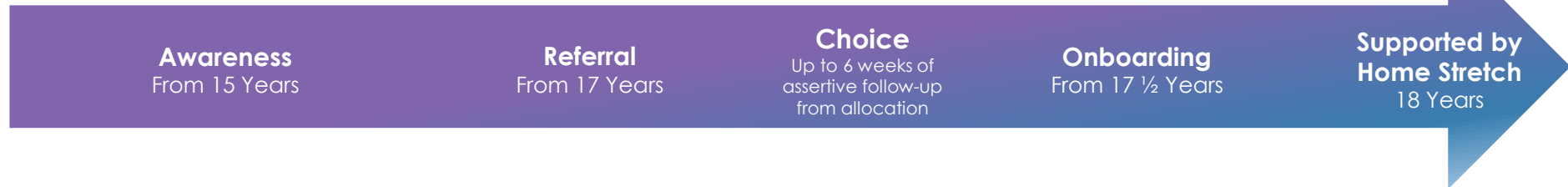


**Activity:**

**Strengths of Aboriginal  
Families**



# Smooth Transition Pathway



## Choice

From 17 Years

# Planning an Info Session

## Stage II will help you understand;

- Where and when should you meet?
- What does this young person need to know?
- What are the most important parts of the offer?
- How should it be explained?
- Who needs to be there and will help the young person make the choice?

## Choice

From 17 Years

# Information Session or Yarning Circle

- Flexible and Individualised
- Keep it Short, Sharp and Simple
- Practical examples “What Home Stretch can offer you”
- Engage and Involve Support Circle from the start
- Young Person Makes the Choice – When they are ready
- Personalised Videos for hard to engage

# Information Session Activity

Working in small groups and using the Home Stretch Info Session Guidelines, the Explainer Video as a reference and the Home Stretch Flyer as a tool.

Develop and Rehearse your own Home Stretch Pitch.

Keep it simple, sharp and direct.

## Choice

From 17 Years

# Information Session or Yarning Circle

**What pressures might be placed on young people to agree to Home Stretch?**

**How can you ensure that their decision is an informed choice?**

## Choice

From 17 Years

## What if they say No?

Young people can decline the Home Stretch WA service offer.

They should be provided with information about how to reconnect either directly or through a district office in the future.

If they haven't responded within the 6 week period, then the referral is typically closed and everyone is informed of the pathway to reconnect.



## Referral

From 17 Years

## Case Study 2

Marie is 17 ½ and lives with her Aunt Rebecca, in a positive and stable long term foster placement. Marie calls Rebecca mum and has always felt that uncomfortable with being part of the child protection system and being forced to see a case manager when she felt her life was pretty stable.

Rebecca is looking forward to the care system no longer being involved, but is worried about her finances with the subsidy ending at 18.

How would you approach an info session with Marie?



# Smooth Transition Pathway



**Awareness**  
From 15 Years

**Referral**  
From 17 Years

**Choice**  
Up to 6 weeks of  
assertive follow-up  
from allocation

**Onboarding**  
From 17 ½ Years

**Supported by  
Home Stretch**  
18 Years

**Home Stretch WA  
Service Provider**

Home Stretch WA Transition Coaches co-locate in a designated district office once per fortnight

They provide up to date program information and share resources with district staff

Co-location is about building trust and strengthening relationships between Home Stretch WA and the District Office team

Young people are generally not supported at the district office site

Onsite Transition Coaches can provide information for young people ambivalent about a referral

Stage I Referrals received through Home Stretch WA Coordinator

Coordinator allocates referral based on eligibility criteria, best fit & coach capacity.

Transition Coach completes Referral Form - Stage II with young person's Support Circle.

Coach meets young person for Home Stretch WA Offer

Young Person makes informed choice to engage in Home Stretch WA

Young person makes informed choice to decline Home Stretch WA

Transition Coach supports leaving care planning and related activities as part of Working Together

Young people on the unattached list must have a nominated district office case manager as a liaison

Gradual transition of support and planning to Home Stretch WA

Financial supports are paid by the Department until the young person reaches 18

Young Person has transitioned to Home Stretch WA - Transition Coach is primary support

Liaison with District Office staff as needed

↑ **Young Person can request re-referral**

**Documents &  
Touchpoints**

- Home Stretch-Fact Sheet-Young People
- Staying On Guide for Carers and Young People
- Home Stretch WA

- Home Stretch WA - Fact Sheet - Young People
- Smooth Transition – Information Session – Practice Guide

- District Completes Stage I Form
- Referral & Onboarding Flow Chart - Providers

- Provider completes Referral Form Stage II
- Home Stretch WA Engagement Plan with Locator Contacts

- Home Stretch WA - Fact Sheet - Young People
- Provider Release of Information Form
- Consent to Participate & Collect Information Form
- Home Stretch WA – Explainer Video
- Consent to Obtain & Store Records Form

- Practice Principles – Flash Cards
- Protocols for Transition Coach & Case Worker - Working Together
- Transition Coach – Stages – Practice Guide

- Leaving Care Plan
- Cultural Plan
- Cultural Map
- Protocols for Transition Coach & Case Worker - Working Together
- Onboarding Checklist

- Next Step - Goal Plan
- Outcome Measure Tool
- Footprints Ecomap
- Invest In Me Application Form – Over 100
- Child History File



## Onboarding

From 17 ½ Years

# Working Together Under 18

From 17 ½ the Transition Coach works together with the young persons case manager to warmly transfer support across to the Home Stretch provider by the young person's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The young person is still in statutory care, but the principles and practices of Home Stretch begin to inform the support provided.

The Transition Coach supports leaving care planning activities with a view to take over primary support after 18.

Continuity in Housing, Education and Support are a primary focus.

# Onboarding

From 17 ½ Years

# Working Together Under 18

What works well in working together?

How can you make the most of the opportunity to collaborate to benefit the young person.

## Smooth Transition Protocols for Transition Coach & Case Worker Working Together Protocols



### Who is the guide for?

The guide is to support both a Transition Coach and a Child Protection Worker to understand how best to approach working together. It can also be used to help explain to a young person and their support circles how things work during the working together period from 17 ½ and 18 years of age.

Working together occurs once a young person has made an informed choice to be part of Home Stretch WA and completed the Consent to Participate form with the Transition Coach they are going to be working with.

The guide is a work in progress and is updated by the Home Stretch WA CoP District Office Working Group. If you have ideas or suggestions please contact [Andrew.Kazim@angicarewa.org.au](mailto:Andrew.Kazim@angicarewa.org.au) or [Colleen.Hast@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:Colleen.Hast@communities.wa.gov.au) or speak to the Home Stretch WA Champion in your district office.

### How might a Home Stretch WA Transition Coach and a Child Protection Worker support a young person to smoothly transition into the Home Stretch WA service?

A smooth transition happens when the Home Stretch WA Transition Coach and the Child Protection Worker have a clear understanding of how to work effectively together, maintain open and transparent communication, and have trust in each other as they work towards the goals of the young person.

Ideally this handover happens gradually and over an agreed time period, with attention to the psychological safety needs of the young person as they build trust

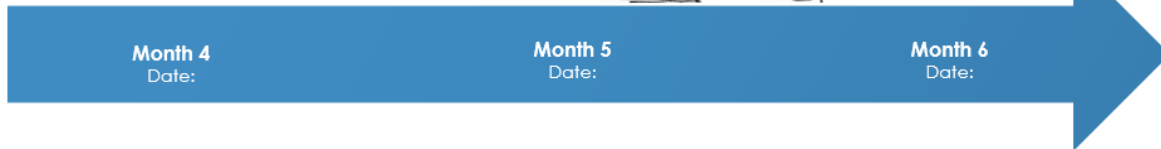
# Onboarding

From 17 ½ Years

# Working Together Under 18

## How to Smooth Transition Working Together timeline

Use the Leaving Care Task Sheet checklists and Leaving Care Plan to allocate tasks appropriate for your young person into the following roles and timeline: Case Manager/District, Work Together and Transition Coach



|                       | Month 4<br>Date: | Month 5<br>Date: | Month 6<br>Date: |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Case Manager/District |                  |                  |                  |
| Work Together         |                  |                  |                  |
| Transition Coach      |                  |                  |                  |

# Onboarding

From 17 1/2 Years

## Consent to Obtain Records

This form helps you work with a young person and a district office to make sure that the young person has access to the records and information they need.

Not all of these things will be available.

Not of all of these documents need to be stored by you.

**Home Stretch WA**

**Consent to Obtain and Store Records**

In supporting your transition from being in care to living independently, it can be helpful for your Home Stretch WA provider to access records on your behalf. This form gives permission for your Transition Coach to find out what records the Department is holding, access copies of those records, and store a copy on file as needed.

Home Stretch providers will only seek copies of these documents as needed.

| Records   | Young Person Holds Copy                                  | Department Holds Copy                                    | Home Stretch Requests Copy                               |
|---|--|--|--|
| Leaving Care Plan or Care Plan  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cultural Plan   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Who's My Mob/Genogram   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Centrelink- Letter to confirm Child in Care   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Criminal Injuries Compensation Claim - Documentation  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| NDIS Documentation - Support Plan & Details   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Department of Housing Application   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health/Ambulance Insurance  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health Records & Providers (e.g. Dental, Mental Health)                                     | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Education History   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Has the young person been given their child history file containing all of these documents? |  |  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

# Onboarding After 17 1/2

# Working Together

# There are a range of tools and forms in Smooth Transition to support you to work with young people

**Smooth Transition Protocols for Transition Coach & Case Worker Working Together Protocols**



**Who is the guide for?**  
The guide is to support both a Transition Coach and a Child Protection Worker to understand how best to approach working together. It can also be used to help explain to a young person and their support circles how things work during the working together period from 17 1/2 and 18 years of age.

Working together occurs once a young person has made an informed choice to be part of Home Stretch WA and completed the Consent to Participate form with the Transition Coach they are going to be working with.

The guide is a work in progress and is updated by the Home Stretch WA CoP District Office Working Group. If you have ideas or suggestions please contact [Andrew.Kazimil@nsw.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Kazimil@nsw.gov.au) or [Colleen.Hoskins@nsw.gov.au](mailto:Colleen.Hoskins@nsw.gov.au) or speak to the Home Stretch WA Champion in your district office.

**How might a Home Stretch WA Transition Coach and a Child Protection Worker support a young person to smoothly transition into the Home Stretch WA service?**


A smooth transition happens when the Home Stretch WA Transition Coach and the Child Protection Worker have a clear understanding of how to work effectively together, maintain open and transparent communication, and have trust in each other as they work towards the goals of the young person.

Ideally this handover happens gradually and over an agreed time period, with attention to the psychological safety needs of the young person as they build trust with a new support person in their life. This period also allows the young person time to experience a positive end to their relationship with Child Protection Workers who may have played a significant role in their life over many years.

Young people who are referred at the age of 17 (Stage one referral via the District) begin working with a Transition Coach at 17 1/2 while they are still in statutory care and under the guardianship of the Department of Communities and a Child Protection Worker.

For young people who return to a district office and Opt-In to Home Stretch WA after 18, the transition period may be much shorter and the capacity of the Child Protection Worker to work collaboratively with a Transition Coach may be significantly, if not completely, restricted to the referral process. Districts that have employed a Post Care Support Care would have greater capacity to support these transitions.

**How to Smooth Transition Working Together timeline**




Use the Leaving Care Task Sheet checklists and Leaving Care Plan to allocate tasks appropriate for your young person into the following roles and timeline: Case Manager/District, Work Together and Transition Coach

|                       | Month 1<br>Date: | Month 2<br>Date: | Month 3<br>Date: |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Case Manager/District |                  |                  |                  |
| Work Together         |                  |                  |                  |
| Transition Coach      |                  |                  |                  |

SP1702 Home Stretch WA - Smooth Transition - Working Together Resource Planning Timeline V1.0 Review Date: 01/09/27 Page 1 of 2

**Home Stretch WA Onboarding Checklist**



**Onboarding, Working Together & Transition Coaching**  
The young person has consented to working with Home Stretch WA.  
This section is about building trust and providing a smooth handover of support, identifying working together plans, roles and responsibilities and what is important to the young person.  
This can include providing information on support available through the Home Stretch Offer.

Below is a checklist of useful documents and guides for Transition Coaching and some prompting questions for discussion.

- Smooth Transition Protocols for Transition Coach and Case Worker- Working Together
- Smooth Transition - Working Together Resource Planning Guidelines
- Home Stretch WA - Practice Guide- Transition Coaching- Stages

**WAYS OF WORKING TOGETHER**  
[Suggestions of best meeting location, times, dates, joint sessions, key people- how often will we meet? What happens if we don't hear from each other? How will we communicate (Phone, email, text, messenger)]

**PRESSING ISSUES OR GOALS**  
Are there any matters that require a quick response?

**WORKING TOGETHER PLAN**



## Onboarding

From 18 Years

## Working Together Over 18

Young people who have already left care may not have anyone who knows them at the District Office

There are very limited dedicated resources available to Districts to support young people after 18.

Good relationships with Districts will help you collect the information and knowledge you need to pick up on things that need to be continued or finished.

The District Champion Might Help.

## Onboarding

From 18 Years

## Working Together Over 18

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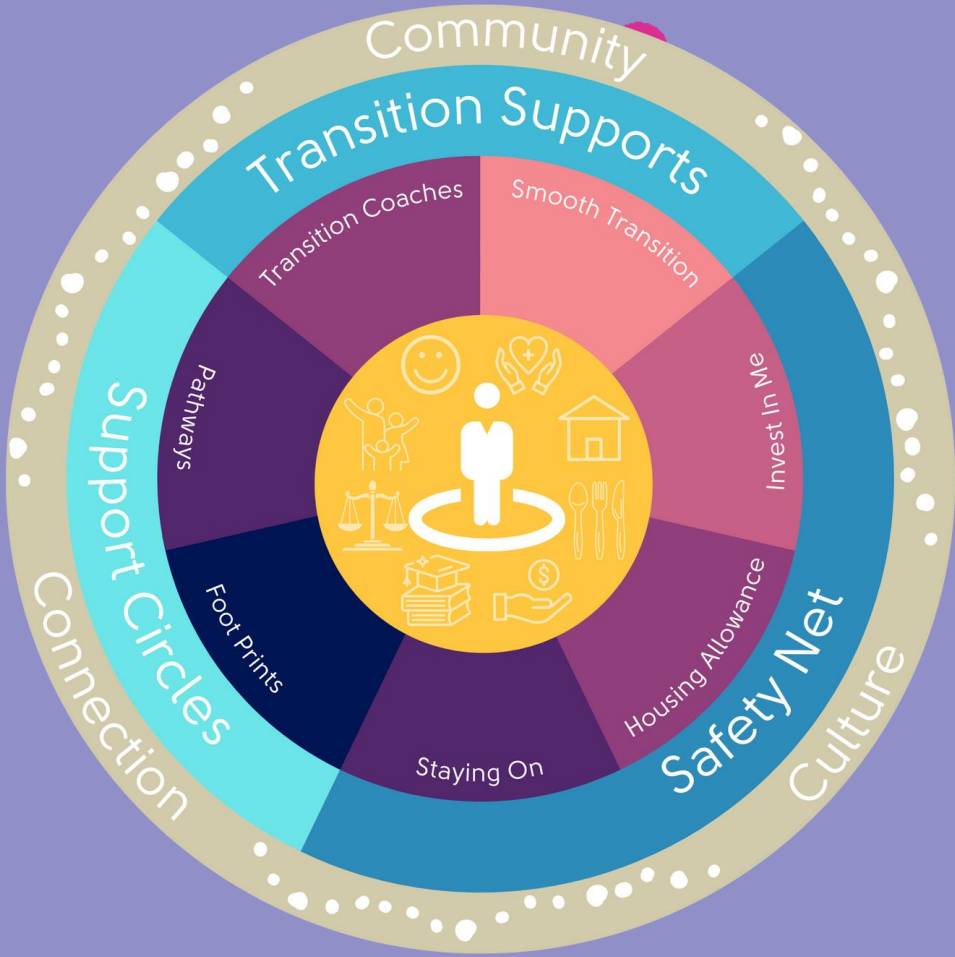
Your Relationships are important.

The important people in your life can be part of your Home Stretch WA experience and we can support you to build new connections



Young People  
are at the Centre

# Home Stretch WA Model



Young people are at center of support.  
Everyone is treated as an individual



Support or connection is offered  
in all areas of life



Support is delivered in specific  
ways [Practice Approaches]  
that work for young people



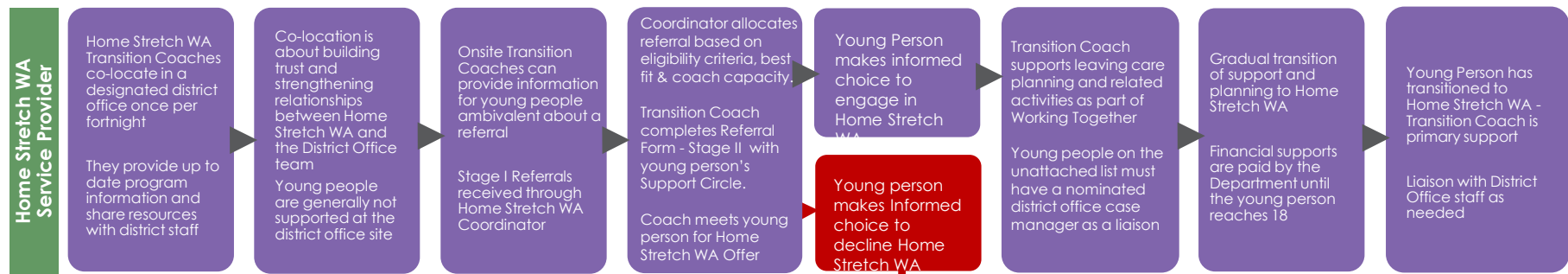
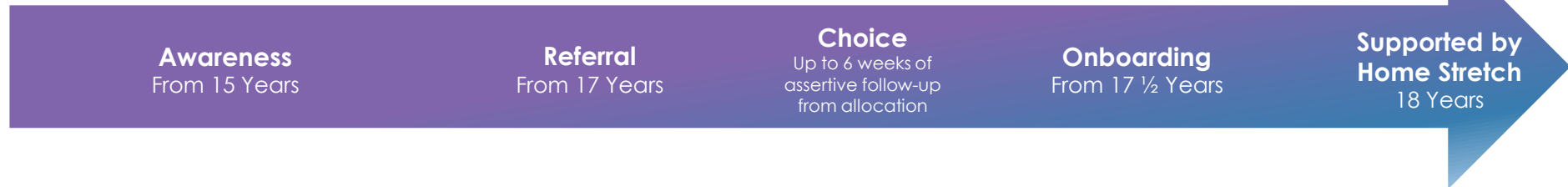
Home Stretch WA focuses on 3  
key elements of support



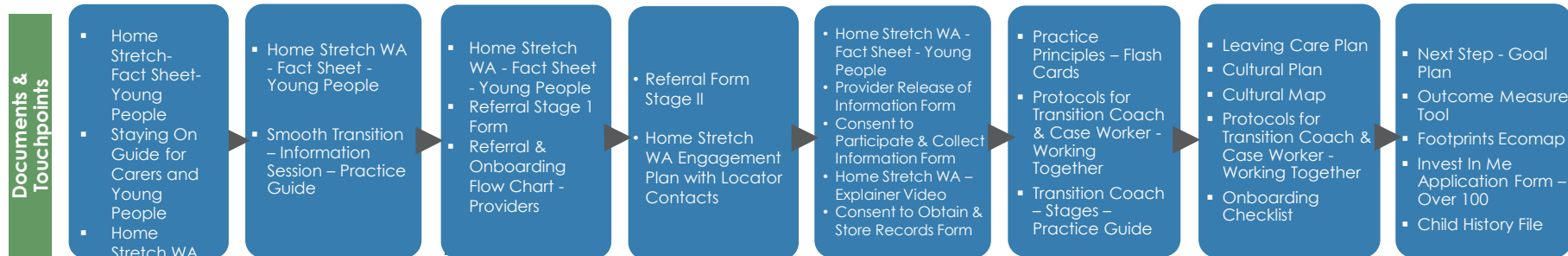
Home Stretch WA greater purpose is  
to connect young people with their  
community and culture.



# Smooth Transition Pathway



**Young Person can request re-referral**





## Access to Resources



[www.homestretchwa.org.au](http://www.homestretchwa.org.au)

## How to Contact Us



[homestretch@anglicarewa.org.au](mailto:homestretch@anglicarewa.org.au)



Andy 0413 207 096

Vanessa 0447 784 128

Renae 0479 067 474

Jess 0486 041 786

## Contact Us:

Email: [homestretchwa@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:homestretchwa@communities.wa.gov.au)

Home Stretch WA FAQ Sheet:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-communities/home-stretch-wa-roll-out>

You can also ask us for a copy of the presentation! We can email it to you.



@homestretchwa



Home Stretch WA

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