

From 17 young people can be referred to a Home Stretch provider and find out for themselves what the service offers and whether they want to access it now, or anytime up to age 21. Carers should be offered information about Staying On.

Case Managers should first share info about the service with young people and obtain their verbal consent to complete the Stage I referral and then email it to the relevant HS Provider.

Provider contact details, Flyers/Videos, and Stage I Referral Forms can be downloaded from the Home Stretch Share-Point site on 'The Common'

<https://wahousing.sharepoint.com/teams/homestretchwa>

General Information is available at <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-communities/home-stretch-wa>

Community of Practice maintains a website for HS providers <https://www.homestretchwa.org.au/>

Stage I Referral Forms link a young person with a HS provider to service. They should be emailed directly to the local HS provider (cc District Champion into referrals) to

- Save copy of **Stage I Referral Form** on objective file.
- Home Stretch WA Coordinator will reply to the Case Manager that the referral has been received within 2 weeks of sent email. If not, follow up with Coordinator or District Champion
- IF the young person has an NDIS plan OR is awaiting assessment for a possible disability diagnosis and NDIS application, AND can give informed consent to participate in Home Stretch WA, you will need to also complete a **Supplementary Disability Form**.
- Prior to the young person turning 17 years and a half, a Transition Coach will contact the Case Manager and start the **Stage II** process. The coach will gather information about the young person in the **Stage II Form** and plan an **info session** to offer the service. They may speak to a young person's carer and support networks. Do not share any confidential reports at this point, as the young person has not yet given consent and the referral has not been finalised.
- The **Info Session** is facilitated by the Transition Coach and provides the young person and their carer/support person a chance to find out more and make an informed choice. The Case Manager **MUST** arrange this meeting with the Transition Coach and be in attendance, if the young person does not have a support person attending (e.g. carer, house manager).
- If a Staying On Agreement is being considered, further meetings will occur between the Home Stretch WA Staying On Facilitator and the young person and their carer. SOCS may attend if required to support the carer.
- Once the young person is **onboarded** with Home Stretch WA, the Case Manager creates a **Case Plan in Assist** to this effect and includes the name of the Home Stretch WA Transition Coach.
- Discuss with the Transition Coach how they will engage the young person, how often you will work together to support them, who will complete what tasks etc. and what meetings will take place/appointments etc. This is a critical part of Home Stretch called **Smooth Transition** and there is a **Working Together** resource to guide both the transition coach and case manager (see attached tool for reference).
- **Post Care funds** can cover up to \$200 for the Transition Coach to engage the young person prior to age 18. This cannot be in the form of prepaid cards. Invoices of purchases are to be emailed to the Case Manager to fund direct to the agency or online purchases can be made, as per District Director approval.
- If possible, a review/modified Final Leaving Care Plan is to take place to review leaving care needs and include the Transition Coach. This is to be held prior to the young person turning age 18 years of age, preferably at around 17 years and 10 months (we understand this can be challenging given workloads, potential disengagement of the young person and timelines etc.).