

# Alternative Organisations & Programs

October-November 2009



**PLEASE NOTE:** Evolve provides this list of organisations and programs as a suggestion only - we do not directly recommend or endorse any of these listings

## Victoria

### WILDERNESS & OUTDOOR BASED PROGRAMS

**The Outdoor Experience (*Jesuit Social Services*)** - [www.jss.org.au](http://www.jss.org.au)

03 9415 8700  
(STATE WIDE)

The Bush Adventure Therapy Program is appropriate for 14 to 24 year olds of both genders but JSS also build programs under the Outdoor Experience banner to suit specific groups and needs (Community Adventure Programs).

**Mittagundi Outdoor Education Centre** - [www.mittagundi.org.au](http://www.mittagundi.org.au)

03 5159 7238  
(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Mittagundi runs programs for young people to challenge themselves, make new friends and experience life in a pioneer-style settlement in the Victorian High Country. Please call Mittagundi if you are unsure about your young person's suitability.

**Wollangarra** - [www.wollangarra.org](http://www.wollangarra.org)

03 5148 0492  
(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Wollangarra runs programs from their remote Gippsland base aimed at helping young people develop skills, gain experiences and be challenged. Please call Wollangarra if you are unsure about your young person's suitability.

**Berry Street** - [www.berrystreet.org.au](http://www.berrystreet.org.au)

03 9429 9266  
(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Berry Street exist to increase life chances and choices for young people who are at risk or who have experienced the trauma of family violence, child abuse and neglect. It has offices and programs right across Victoria and offers a wilderness program in Gippsland.

**People Outdoors** - [www.peopleoutdoors.org.au](http://www.peopleoutdoors.org.au)

03 9430 2950  
(Secular, STATE WIDE)

A group that aims to provide outdoor adventures and experience to young people of all abilities.

**Activate Australia** - [www.activate.org.au](http://www.activate.org.au)  
03 9841 5614      [peter@activate.org.au](mailto:peter@activate.org.au)  
(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Programs for young people with 'tough realities' that develop leadership potential and helps unlock the resources of those who experience personal and social challenges.

## INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

**The Gateway Program (Jesuit Social Services)** - [www.jss.org.au](http://www.jss.org.au)  
03 9415 8700  
(STATE WIDE)

The Gateway Program is for at-risk young people aged 15 to 24 who need help reconnecting with their peers, family and/or community.

**Finding Solutions (Melbourne Citymission)** - [www.melbournecitymission.org.au](http://www.melbournecitymission.org.au)  
03 9687 4997  
(Secular, WESTERN METRO)

The Gateway Program is for at-risk young people aged 15 to 24 who need help reconnecting with their peers, family and/or community.

## HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS

**Front Yard Youth Services** - [www.frontyard.org.au](http://www.frontyard.org.au)  
1800 800 531  
(Secular, MELBOURNE)

A resource centre where homeless young people (or those at risk of becoming homeless) can find all the information they need to make informed decisions about the services they may need.

**Young People's Health Service**  
03 9611 2409      03 9611 2411  
(Secular, MELBOURNE)

A service that aims to improve the health of young people who are at risk of or currently are homeless.

**Reconnect** - [www.fahcsia.gov.au](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au)  
1800 813 750  
(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Using community-based early intervention services to assist young people aged 12 to 18 who are, or at risk of, homelessness and their families.

## YOUTH HEALTH & SAFETY RESOURCES

**Department of Human Services** - [www.dhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au)

Please see final page of this document for a listing of Child Protection Services contacts.

**YSAS - Wellbeing For Young People - [www.ysas.org.au](http://www.ysas.org.au)**

03 9415 8881 [admin@ysas.org.au](mailto:admin@ysas.org.au)

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

YSAS provides a range of youth-specific outreach, treatment, withdrawal and support programs across Victoria.

**Mental Illness Fellowship Victoria - [www.mifellowship.org](http://www.mifellowship.org)**

03 8486 4222 [enquiries@mifellowship.org](mailto:enquiries@mifellowship.org)

(Secular, STATEWIDE)

Working with people with mental illness, their families and friends to improve their well being.

**DirectLINE - [www.health.vic.gov.au/drugs/directline.htm](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/drugs/directline.htm)**

1800 888 236

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

A 24-hour, 7-day counselling service for people suffering drug or alcohol addition and their families. Provides information and referrals, and is free, anonymous and confidential.

**Southern Health Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service - [www.southernhealth.org.au](http://www.southernhealth.org.au)**

03 9594 1300 [camhs@southernhealth.org.au](mailto:camhs@southernhealth.org.au)

(Secular, CARDINIA, CASEY, DANDENONG, KINGSTON & MONASH COUNCIL AREAS)

A place where young people who are experiencing emotional, behavioural or mental health problems can get help.

**Service Seeker - [www.serviceseeker.com.au](http://www.serviceseeker.com.au)**

An extensive directory of health, welfare and community support service providers

**Connexions@JSS (Jesuit Social Services)**

03 9415 8700 [connexions@jss.org.au](mailto:connexions@jss.org.au)

(Secular, STATEWIDE)

**Autism Victoria - [www.autismvictoria.org.au](http://www.autismvictoria.org.au)**

03 9885 0533 [info@autismvictoria.org.au](mailto:info@autismvictoria.org.au)

(Secular, STATEWIDE)

The first place to call for information and advice for anyone interested in finding out more about Autism Spectrum Disorders in Victoria.

## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING RESOURCES

**Slingshot Youth Self-Employment - [www.slingshot.org.au](http://www.slingshot.org.au)**

03 8486 2111 [ahowie@mcm.org.au](mailto:ahowie@mcm.org.au)

(Secular, MELBOURNE)

Slingshot provides disadvantaged or disengaged young people aged 15 to 25 who are not in school, employment or training, homeless (or at risk of becoming homeless), newly arrived, from a disadvantaged background or require support to engage in employment, education or training.

## GENERAL PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

**Parentline** - [www.education.vic.gov.au/earlychildhood/parentline/](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/earlychildhood/parentline/)

13 22 89

(Secular)

Providing a confidential telephone counselling service to parents and carers.

**Reach** - [www.reach.org.au](http://www.reach.org.au)

03 9412 0900      [info@reach.org.au](mailto:info@reach.org.au)

(Secular, MELBOURNE)

Reach is all about inspiring young people to achieve, no matter what their circumstances. The youth leaders (aged 15 to 25) run interactive workshops, trips away and big events in an environment that's safe and accepting.

**The Salvation Army** - [www.salvationarmy.org.au](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au)

Care Line: 1300 363 622

Providing counselling and crisis care across Victoria

**Youth Law** - [www.youthlaw.asn.au](http://www.youthlaw.asn.au)

03 9611 2412      [info@youthlaw.asn.au](mailto:info@youthlaw.asn.au)

(Secular, STATEWIDE)

A legal rights centre for young people to source information and advice.

**Anglicare** – [www.anglicarevic.org.au](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au)

1800 809 722

(Religious based, STATEWIDE)

Supporting children, young people and families through practical care that makes a lasting difference.

**Outdoors Inc** - [www.outdoorsinc.org.au](http://www.outdoorsinc.org.au)

03 9417 2111

(Secular, STATEWIDE)

Psycho-social rehabilitation and planned respite services using outdoor adventure education and recreation for people with negative mental health or psychiatric disability.

## Northern Territory

**Brahminy** - [www.brahminygroup.org.au](http://www.brahminygroup.org.au)

1300 764 101

Programs and activities for at-risk or marginalised young people and young adults through residential and intervention programs on a 250-acre property in the Eva Valley.

**Bushmob** - [www.bushmob.com.au](http://www.bushmob.com.au)

08 8953 3798

(Secular)

Journeys are made in Central Australia by, and for, young people to get the self-respect, trust and courage and skill to have a good life because grog, sniffing, drugs and crime and no good. Bush Mob's unique approach to working with young people and their families is through the power of respect, supporting self advocacy and the freedom to choose their future.

## New South Wales & the ACT

**Project SAUL** - [www.projectsaul.org.au](http://www.projectsaul.org.au)

0403 060 369      [president@projectsaul.org.au](mailto:president@projectsaul.org.au)

(Secular)

Project SAUL is a community based program for at-risk youth aimed at building self-awareness, respect, character and discipline and includes a range of outdoor activities.

**Aunties & Uncles** – [www.auntiesanduncles.com.au](http://www.auntiesanduncles.com.au)

02 9638 2480      [admin@auntiesanduncles.org.au](mailto:admin@auntiesanduncles.org.au)

(Secular)

Helping build a better life for children through early intervention mentoring program based on an extended family model of 'aunts and uncles' who provide mentoring and guidance in a stable family environment.

**XGA** - [www.xga.com.au](http://www.xga.com.au)

02 9869 1300

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Working with kids on the street and unemployed using intervention and outdoor programs.

**Vitel**

02 9725 7779

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Six-week adventure therapy programs for young people with additional work experience programs.

## Tasmania

**The Wilderness Project** - [www.development.tas.gov.au/sportrec/wilderness](http://www.development.tas.gov.au/sportrec/wilderness)

03 6233 3503      [wildernessprogram@development.tas.gov.au](mailto:wildernessprogram@development.tas.gov.au)

(Secular)

The Wilderness Program works to build resilience and capacity within Tasmanian communities and provides opportunities to a wide range of individuals, including those deemed at-risk and those in rural areas.

**Meander Valley Community Safety Through Connection**

03 6395 5300

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Encouraging learning opportunities, participation and leadership, strengthening communication and understanding.

## South Australia

**Tall Ships One & All** - [www.satallships.com.au](http://www.satallships.com.au)

08 8341 2004 [info@satallships.com.au](mailto:info@satallships.com.au)

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Bringing young people from all walks of life together to meet the challenging and ever-changing elements of the sea. Teens must work together in an isolated, unfamiliar and adventure-based environment, providing opportunities for kids to learn about themselves and have positive interactions with others.

**Operation Flinders** - [www.operationflinders.org](http://www.operationflinders.org)

08 8242 3233

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

Operation Flinders operates world-leading wilderness adventure programs for young offenders and young people at risk aged 14 to 18.

## Queensland

**Youth Enterprise Trust** - [www.yet.net.au](http://www.yet.net.au)

07 5543 6899 [enquiries@yet.net.au](mailto:enquiries@yet.net.au)

(Secular, STATE WIDE)

YET uses the land, with preventative, vocational and leadership programs, as a vehicle to assist young people through challenging times.

**Roma House** - [www.ladybowentrust.org.au](http://www.ladybowentrust.org.au)

1800 081 698 [enquiries@ladybowentrust.org.au](mailto:enquiries@ladybowentrust.org.au)

(Secular)

Unique intensive support and accommodation to people experiencing primary homelessness in the Brisbane area who may be excluded from existing services and/or have complex needs.

**Brisbane Youth Services** – [www.brisyouth.org](http://www.brisyouth.org)

07 3252 3750 [admin@brisyouth.org](mailto:admin@brisyouth.org)

(Secular, BRISBANE)

Community based organisation that works with homeless or at-risk young people aged 15-25 years.

**Pathways Foundation** – [www.pathwaysfoundation.com.au](http://www.pathwaysfoundation.com.au)

1300 850 766 [info@pathwaysfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@pathwaysfoundation.org.au)

(Secular)

A national harm prevention charity that assists young people make the fundamental emotional shift from being a child to becoming a young adult.

**Vitae** - [www.vitae.org.au](http://www.vitae.org.au)

07 3821 7472 [info@vitae.org.au](mailto:info@vitae.org.au)

(Secular)

Providing youth with the challenging environment in which to make life changing decisions using bush-based interventions.

# National Programs

## **Green Corps** - [www.greencorps.gov.au](http://www.greencorps.gov.au)

13 62 68  
(Secular)

An Australian Government youth development and environmental training program for young people between the ages of 17 and 20, with the aim of assisting income support recipients.

## **Suicide Helpline**

1300 651 251

## **LifeLine Australia** - [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)

13 11 14 (24 hours)

## **Read The Signs** - [www.readthesigns.com.au](http://www.readthesigns.com.au)

A series of resources designed to prevent suicide in young men and promote help-seeking and treatment.

## **Stride Foundation** – [www.stride.org.au](http://www.stride.org.au)

03 9489 1611  
(Secular)

Dedicated to helping improve the physical, mental and social well-being of young people and their communities through empowering and holistic prevention programs.

## **Australian Childhood Foundation** – [www.childhood.org.au](http://www.childhood.org.au)

1800 176 453      [jwallace@childhood.org.au](mailto:jwallace@childhood.org.au)  
(Secular)

Working to put a stop to child abuse and give children a life free from violence and trauma.

## **Inspire Foundation** – [www.inspire.org.au](http://www.inspire.org.au)

02 8585 9300  
(Secular)

We combine technology with the direct involvement of young people to delivery innovative and practical online programs that prevent youth suicide and improve young people's mental health and well-being.

## **Barnardos** – [www.barnados.org.au](http://www.barnados.org.au)

1800 061 000

Supporting children who may be suffering from, or who are at risk of, abuse, neglect, homelessness or poverty. They may also be at risk of being placed in welfare care.

**The Butterfly Foundation** – [www.thebutterflyfoundation.org.au](http://www.thebutterflyfoundation.org.au)

03 9822 5771

(Secular)

Dedicated to changing the culture, policy and practice in the prevention and treatment of eating disorders.

**Tedd Noffs Foundation** – [www.noffs.org.au](http://www.noffs.org.au)

02 9310 0133

[noffs@noffs.org.au](mailto:noffs@noffs.org.au)

(Secular)

Empowering youth to overcome drugs – a leader in the provision of services to young people since 1971.

**The Alannah & Madeline Foundation** – [www.amf.org.au](http://www.amf.org.au)

03 9697 0666

(Secular)

Protecting children from violence and its devastating effects. We care for children who have experienced or witnessed violence and run program to prevent violence in the lives of children.

**Brave Hearts** – [www.bravehearts.org.au](http://www.bravehearts.org.au)

1800 114 474 (Crisis Line) or 07 5552 3000 (QLD) or 03 5831 2797 (VIC) or 02 8216 6360 (NSW)

(Secular)

Setting the standard in the provision of specialist therapeutic services and support to survivors of child sexual assault and their non-offending family.

**Black Dog Institute** – [www.blackdoginstitute.org.au](http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au)

02 9382 4523

[blackdog@blackdog.org.au](mailto:blackdog@blackdog.org.au)

(Secular)

Advancing the understanding, diagnosis and management of mood disorders and offering specialist expertise in mood disorders through the educational, research, clinical and community facility.

**Reach Out** – <http://au.reachout.com>

[info@reachout.com.au](mailto:info@reachout.com.au)

(Secular)

Helping people by improving their understanding of the issues that relate to their mental health and well-being and providing information to better understand other people's experiences.

**YBBlue** – [www.youthbeyondblue.com](http://www.youthbeyondblue.com)

1300 224 636

[bb@beyondblue.com.au](mailto:bb@beyondblue.com.au)

(Secular)

YBBlue is all about getting the message out there that it's okay to talk about depression and to encourage young people and their family and friends to get help when it's needed.

**SANE Australia** - [www.sane.org](http://www.sane.org)

1800 187 263 (1800 18 SANE) [helpline@sane.org](mailto:helpline@sane.org)

(Secular)

SANE Australia works for a better life for people affected by mental illness through campaigning, education and research. They provide information and help through their support line.

**Kids Help Line** - [www.kidshelp.com.au](http://www.kidshelp.com.au)

1800 551 800 [admin@boystown.com.au](mailto:admin@boystown.com.au)

(Secular)

A phone line that young people can call at any time to discuss ideas, information, worries, concerns, frustrations or fears in anonymity and without judgement.

**It's Alright** – [www.itsallright.org](http://www.itsallright.org)

(Secular)

Providing young people who have (or have a family member with) a mental illness with information and support, including diaries of teenagers in those situations.

**Australian Infant, Child, Adolescent & Family Mental Health Association** –

[www.aicafmha.net.au](http://www.aicafmha.net.au)

08 8132 0786 [secretary@aicafmha.net.au](mailto:secretary@aicafmha.net.au)

(Secular)

Actively promoting the mental health and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and their families and carers.”

**ACT For Kids** – [www.actforkids.com.au](http://www.actforkids.com.au)

1300 228 000 [mail@actforkids.com.au](mailto:mail@actforkids.com.au)

(Secular)

Working to give all Aussie kids the safe and happy childhood they deserve.

**Oxygen Youth Health** - <http://oyh.org.au>

03 9342 2800

(Secular)

Australia's largest youth-focused mental health organisation.

**Arafemi** - [www.arafemi.org.au](http://www.arafemi.org.au)

1300 550 265

Promoting and improving the well being of people affected by mental illness.

**Asperger Services Australia** - [www.asperger.asn.au](http://www.asperger.asn.au)

07 3865 2911 [office@asperger.asn.au](mailto:office@asperger.asn.au)

Provides support to parents, families, carers, individuals, service providers and professionals.

**National Child Protection Clearing House** - [www.aifs.gov.au/nch](http://www.aifs.gov.au/nch)

An information, advisory and research service unit focused on child abuse prevention, child protection and out-of-home care.

**Association for Children With a Disability** - [www.acd.org.au](http://www.acd.org.au)

1800 654 013      [mail@acd.org.au](mailto:mail@acd.org.au)  
(Secular, NATIONWIDE)

Information, support and advocacy for families of children with a disability.

**Learning Links** - [www.learninglinks.org.au](http://www.learninglinks.org.au)

02 8568 8200      [mail@learninglinks.org.au](mailto:mail@learninglinks.org.au)

A charity formed to help children who have learning disabilities, developmental delays and their families.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Australia** - [www.bigbrothersbigsisters.org.au](http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.org.au)

03 9489 5411      [enquiries@bbbs.org.au](mailto:enquiries@bbbs.org.au)  
(Secular)

Big Brothers Big Sisters help young people realise their potential by providing them with high quality mentors. This program is particularly useful for youths who do not have a significant same-sex role model in their lives.

**Ardoch Youth Foundation** - [www.ardoch.asn.au](http://www.ardoch.asn.au)

03 9537 2414  
(Secular)

The Foundation works with a range of schools, corporate organisations and communities to link resources that help disadvantaged young people stay in education.

# Victorian Department of Human Services Children, Youth & Families

## TO MAKE A REPORT TO CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES

For information about when or how to make a referral or report to Child Protection Services, visit:

<http://www.cyf.vic.gov.au/family-services/how-to-make-a-referral-or-report/to-make-a-report-to-child-protection>

Reporting concerns about children or young people:

### Life Threatening Abuse

Victoria Police 000

### Immediate Safety Concerns

Child Protection Crisis Line 131 278 (24 hours, 7 days a week)

### All Other Reporting

Regional Offices (see page 9 for address listing)

Metropolitan - Eastern	1300 360 391
Metropolitan - Southern	1300 655 795
Metropolitan - Northern	1300 369 536
Metropolitan - Western	1300 369 536

Barwon-South Western	1800 075 599
Gippsland	1800 020 202
Grampians	1800 000 551
Hume	1800 650 227
Loddon-Mallee	1800 675 598

After Hours                      13 12 78      (Emergency Service)

ACT	02 6207 0720
NSW	132 111
NT	1800 700 250
QLD	07 3235 9999
SA	131 478
TAS	1800 001 219
WA	08 9325 1111

For people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment:

[www.relayservice.com.au](http://www.relayservice.com.au)                      or                      1800 555 660

**Barwon-South Western Region**

State Government Offices  
2nd Floor, Cnr Little Mallop & Fenwick Streets  
GEELONG VIC 3220  
03 5226 4540

**Eastern Metropolitan Region**

883 Whitehorse Road  
BOX HILL VIC 3128  
03 9843 6000

**Gippsland Region**

43 Grey Street  
TRARALGON VIC 3844  
03 5177 2500

**Grampians Region**

State Government Offices  
Cnr Mair & Doveton Streets  
BALLARAT VIC 3350  
03 5333 6669

**Hume Region**

74 Ovens Street  
WANGARATTA VIC 3677  
03 5722 0555

**Loddon-Mallee Region**

37 Rowan Street  
BENDIGO VIC 3552  
03 5434 5555

**Northern Metropolitan Region**

145 Smith Street  
FITZROY VIC 3065  
03 9412 5333

**Southern Metropolitan Region**

122 Thomas Street  
DANDENONG VIC 3175  
03 9213 2111

**Western Metropolitan Region**

71 Moreland Street  
FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011  
03 9275 7000