

Indigenous children



Did you know?

Indigenous (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) children account for only **5%** of Australian children but they account for **38%** of children in out-of-home care.

AIHW 16/17

Indigenous children are **10 times** more likely to be on care and protection orders or living in out-of-home care than non-Indigenous children.

AIHW 16/17

Indigenous children under the age of 12 months are **8 times** more likely to be hospitalised for assault.

AIHW 16/17

Key Issues



Family violence:

The rate of assault is 17 times higher for indigenous girls and young women and 4 times higher for boys and young men than their non-Indigenous counterparts.

AIHW 16/17



Mental illness: Indigenous young people are hospitalised for mental and behavioural disorders at almost twice the non-Indigenous rate.

AIHW 16/17

Childhood mortality:

Indigenous child mortality rates are 60% higher than the rate for non-Indigenous children. Closing the gap 2016



Juvenile justice:

Indigenous males were 1.4 times as likely to be under youth justice supervision as non-Indigenous males, and Indigenous females were twice as likely.

AIHW 16/17



Homelessness: Indigenous people represent 3% of general population and more than 25% of people experiencing homelessness.

Homelessness Australia 2016

Exposure to tobacco:

Indigenous people over 15 years are 2.5 times more likely to be a current smoker.

Closing the gap 2016

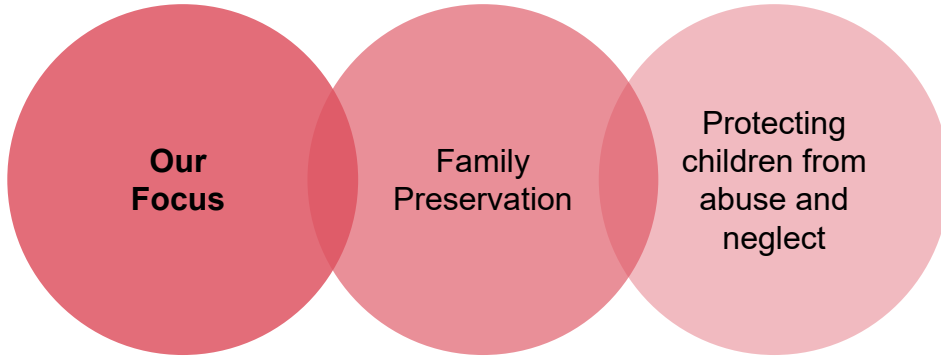


Find out more

- AIHW, Child Protection 16/17
- ACOSS, Poverty in Australia 2016
- Closing the Gap 2016
- Homelessness Australia 2016

How we help

We work in partnership with Aboriginal communities to build strong Aboriginal out-of-home care agencies that ensure Aboriginal children who are unable to live at home are cared for by their kin or Aboriginal foster carers.



We acknowledge adoption is culturally inappropriate for Aboriginal children.

Indigenous children have more extensive and complex family relationships than most non-Indigenous children. They also struggle on a daily basis with the long-term effects of the Stolen Generation and ongoing deprivation.

In 2016/17 we directly helped:

100+ Indigenous children aged 5-12 through our Indigenous Learning Centres.

Our Indigenous Services

- Parent education and counselling
- Indigenous learning centres
- Temporary foster care (short term, crisis and respite care)
- Supported playgroups
- Family support and preservation
- Kinship care
- In-home parenting support
- Family and domestic violence support
- Narang Bir-rong & GNL Partnerships

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