Uniting's Youth Transitions Programs

Louise Smeaton
Head of Southern NSW & ACT Communities

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How do other jurisdictions support young people leaving care?

VIC	WA	QLD	NT
Homestretch (2021) 18-21 years $1599 per year (brokerage) Coaching model	***Staying on Subsidy*** (2022) 18-21 years $450/fortnight 1st year 75% ($337.50) 2nd year 50% ($225) 3rd year Coaching model	Extended Post Care Support (2023) 18-21 years Up to $16000 per year Coaching model co-designed with young people	Transition to Independence Policy (2022) 18-22 Financial assistance available but not specified Focus on cultural support for young First Nations people

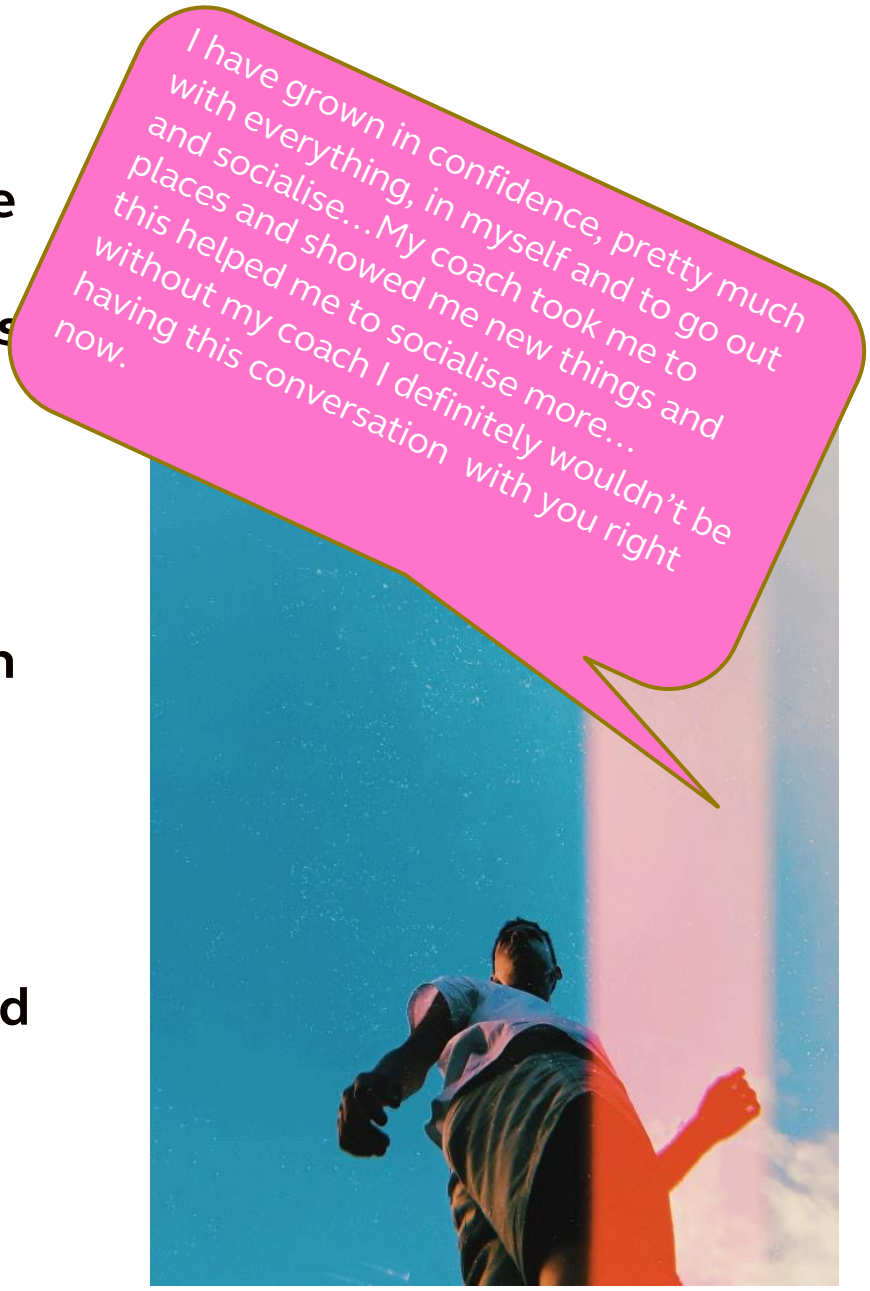
TAS	SA	ACT	NSW
Transition to Independence Program (2018) 18-21 years Financial support capped at$2500 per year, brokered through a case worker	***Stability in Family-Based Care Program (2018)*** **and** ***Over 18 Education Initiative*** Supports young people to stay with carers until 21 $784.40 a fortnight until age 21or until young person moves out. Education grant $258 per quarter.	[Currently being commissioned] 18-21 years ACT system will be a universal (opt-out) system	***Your Choice Your Future*** (2023) 18-21 years Independent Living Allowance ($125 per week, $6.5k per year) Staying on Allowance ($272 per week and decreases Promise to deliver more Aftercares supports but this has not yet occurred.

Advantaged-Thinking Practice

- Originally developed by Colin Falconer in the UK
- Adapted by the Brotherhood of St Lawrence in Victoria
- Recognises young people's **talents and strengths**
- Enables young people to develop **aspirations, goals and plans**
- Young people need to be given ownership of the decisions that affect their lives
- Ensures that young people can activate their **rights and responsibilities** when accessing services

How is coaching different from casework?

- **Casework focuses on identifying a client's problems & needs. Clients are then connected to services (and resources) to address these problems**
- **In contrast, coaching identifies a young person's strengths and assets and helps them develop goals that draw on these capabilities. Based on idea that young people are experts in their own lives.**
- **Coaching is inherently future-focused.**
- **Coaching works to empower young people to develop the skills they need to live independently.**



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Integrating Advantaged-Thinking with Trauma-informed care

- Many young people leaving care have experienced significant trauma in their lives. A large proportion also have physical, mental health and developmental issues as a result of abuse or trauma. These can all affect a young person's self-care and coping skills.

- Trauma-Informed Care is closely aligned with Advantaged Thinking. Trauma-Informed Care involves **meeting client needs in a safe, collaborative and compassionate manner**, as well as building on the strengths and resilience of clients in the context of their environments and communities.

- Both models are underpinned by the concepts of **agency and empowerment** and are strengths-based and person-focused.

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