

















## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES - BENDIGO**

<p><b><u>Early Childhood Intervention Services</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support children with a disability or developmental delay from birth to school entry.</li> <li>• Provide special education, therapy, counselling, service planning and coordination, assistance and support to access services such as kindergarten and child care.</li> <li>• Referral to this service is made through the Specialist Information and Referral team.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Early Childhood Intervention Services Phone: 1300 363 514 Email: <a href="mailto:ecis.intake.nwvr@edumail.vic.gov.au">ecis.intake.nwvr@edumail.vic.gov.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/parents/needs/pages/ecis.aspx">www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/parents/needs/pages/ecis.aspx</a></p> 	<p><b><u>Maternal Child Health Nurse</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available for all families with children from birth to school age children.</li> <li>• Free service offering 10 key age consultations including three and a half year old check prior to children attending 4 year old preschool.</li> <li>• Service supports families and their children with emphasis on parenting, prevention and health promotion, developmental assessment, early detection and referral and social support.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: City of Greater Bendigo, Community Services Team Phone: 03 4408 6590 Web: <a href="https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Community/Children_and_Family_services#.VVV3i_mqpBd">https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Community/Children_and_Family_services#.VVV3i_mqpBd</a></p> 
<p><b><u>Child FIRST – St Lukes</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides a range of family support services for vulnerable children and families.</li> <li>• Enables families to access services and support they need at the time they need them.</li> <li>• Build capacity of families to support their children’s development and safety.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: St Lukes – Child FIRST Phone: 1800 260 338 and 03 5440 1147</p> 	<p><b><u>Preschool Field Officer (PSFO) Program St Lukes</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim to support Educator’s to promote the participation of all children in preschool. They can help advise, support, advocate and liaise with families.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Susan McGrath or Nicole Murphy Phone: 03 5440 1100 Email: <a href="mailto:psfo@anglicarevic.org.au">psfo@anglicarevic.org.au</a></p> 
<p><b><u>Loddon Mallee Regional Parenting Service</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver education and support to parents and carers.</li> <li>• Programs and workshops cover a wide range of parenting and family relationship topics.</li> <li>• Information and assistance on parenting issues can be provided to families.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Narelle Williams Phone: 03 5438 1300 Email: <a href="mailto:fesintake@ccds.org.au">fesintake@ccds.org.au</a> <a href="mailto:narelle.williams@ccds.org.au">narelle.williams@ccds.org.au</a></p> 	<p><b><u>CASA – Victorian Centres Against Sexual Assault</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide victim/survivors of sexual assault access to comprehensive and timely support and intervention to address their needs.</li> <li>• A free confidential 24 hour emergency or crisis care service is available for victim/survivors who have recently been sexually assaulted.</li> <li>• Counselling support, access to medical care and legal processes.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: CASA Sexual Assault Crisis Line (free, available 24 hours) Phone: 1800 806 292 Sexual Assault Counselling Phone: 1800 RESPECT</p> 

<p><b><u>Off To An Early Start Program</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program promotes the importance of Early Learning for children.</li> <li>• The program works with families to support regular attendance and participation for children at playgroup, kindergarten and early years of school.</li> <li>• They can also help with joining playgroups or helping enrol children into kindergarten or school.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Pam or Linda Phone: 03 4408 6590</p> 	<p><b><u>Talking Matters – Speech Pathology</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speech pathology drop in clinic where families can come to discuss their child’s speech and language concerns.</li> <li>• No referral required or an arranged appointment. Service available for children aged birth to school entry.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Diana Antoniazzi Phone: 03 5454 8783</p>
<p><b><u>Parentline Victoria</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telephone counselling service to parents and carers of children aged from birth to eighteen years.</li> <li>• Professional counsellors are able to explore a variety of issues that impact on parenting and relationships and provide contact details for community services.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Parentline Phone: 13 22 89 8am – Midnight, 7 days a week</p> 	<p><b><u>Centre for Non Violence</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Centre for Non-Violence delivers a range of quality services and programs that respond to family violence and homelessness.</li> <li>• These services and programs are delivered through a continuum of interventions: prevention, protection, recovery, counselling and support.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Women and Children’s Services Phone: 03 5443 4844 1800 884 038 Contact: Men’s Programs/Loddon Mallee Homelessness Network Phone: 03 5434 4100 1800 884 292</p> 
<p><b><u>Haven - Home Safe</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides those who are homeless or in housing crisis access to the support and resources they need to eliminate their homelessness.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Haven – Home Safe Phone: 03 5444 9000 Email: <a href="mailto:info@hhs.org.au">info@hhs.org.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.lmhs.com.au">www.lmhs.com.au</a></p> 	<p><b><u>Financial Counselling – St Lukes</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained financial counsellors provide a free and confidential service to families and individuals experiencing financial difficulties.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: St Lukes Free call all areas: 1800 244 323 Phone: 03 5448 1000</p>  <p>Web: <a href="http://www.stlukes.org.au/Pages/Our_Services/Financial_Counselling.aspx">www.stlukes.org.au/Pages/Our_Services/Financial_Counselling.aspx</a></p>
<p><b><u>Mental Health Services – Medicare Local</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work closely with local communities to keep people healthy and out of hospital.</li> <li>• Access to this mental health service is through your General Practitioner (GP) who is trained to carry out an assessment about the mental health difficulties you are experiencing.</li> <li>• There is no fee to access this service.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Medicare Local Phone: 03 5441 7806 Email: <a href="mailto:info@lmmml.org.au">info@lmmml.org.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.lmmml.org.au">www.lmmml.org.au</a></p> 	<p><b><u>Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) is a home-based learning and parenting program for families with young children.</li> <li>• It is voluntary program and is free for families.</li> <li>• HIPPY families spend around 10-15 minutes a day, five days a week doing educational activities together.</li> <li>• Home tutors schedule regular weekly or fortnightly visits.</li> </ul> <p>Referral Contact: Carlene Egan Phone: 03 5430 1200 Email: <a href="mailto:cegan@stlukes.org.au">cegan@stlukes.org.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.hippyaustralia.bsl.org.au">www.hippyaustralia.bsl.org.au</a></p> 

<p><b><u>Bendigo and District Aboriginal Co-operative</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bendigo and District Aboriginal Co-operative provides a range of health and social welfare services to the Aboriginal Community of Dja Dja Wrung.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Veronica  Phone: 03 5442 4941  Web: <a href="http://www.bdac.com.au">www.bdac.com.au</a></p>	<p><b><u>Child Dental Health</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive dental care to eligible children who live in Bendigo and the surrounding area.</li> <li>• All children under 13 years of age irrespective of income.</li> <li>• No referral or waiting list</li> <li>• Children who have toothache or pain or require a check up will be offered the next available appointment.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Community Dental Services Phone: 03 5454 7994</p>
<p><b><u>Bendigo Community Toy Library</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Huge variety of toys for loan, aimed at helping children from birth to school age learn the art of play.</li> <li>• Operating hours – Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.</li> </ul> <p>Phone: 5441 3180  Web: <a href="http://bendigotoylibrary.org.au">bendigotoylibrary.org.au</a></p> 	<p><b><u>Playgroups</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playgroups provide parents and caregivers with the opportunity to meet new people, gain support and exchange parenting ideas.</li> <li>• They provide babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers with the chance to socialise as they play and learn together.</li> </ul> <p>Phone: 03 5434 6364  Email: <a href="mailto:cfs@bendigo.vic.gov.au">cfs@bendigo.vic.gov.au</a>  Web: <a href="http://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Community/Children_and_Family_services/Playgroups#.VVwZjPmqpBc">www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Community/Children_and_Family_services/Playgroups#.VVwZjPmqpBc</a></p>
<p><b><u>Paediatrician</u></b></p> <p>Contact your family GP for referrals to a Paediatrician.</p>	<p><b><u>About Raising Children Network</u></b></p> <p>Provides valuable information that can help parents with the day to day decisions of raising children.</p> <p>Web: <a href="http://www.raisingchildren.net.au">www.raisingchildren.net.au</a></p> 