



## Community Services Grants Program

### Update from CSGP Roundtable

February 2008

#### Communiqué 5

Over the past two years, DoCS has informed the sector of the progress of the CSGP Review. The Review has resulted in the adoption of the new Headline Result for CSGP:

**Disadvantaged children, young people, families and disadvantaged communities are resilient and safe**

In conjunction with Ernst and Young as consultants, DoCS and the CSGP Roundtable undertook a series of consultations and workshops to determine the future direction of CSGP.

#### **Service Alignment**

To assess the level of alignment of the current service system an Assessment of Services funded under this Program was undertaken. This Assessment commenced in April 2007 and the results of these Alignment reports were sent out to Services in January of this year.

The Assessment was conducted to enable DoCS to determine the alignment of the CSGP program to the CSGP results logic and DOCS corporate directions. This enabled the Review to categorise Services into three groups:

- services that are not DoCS core responsibility
- services that are a mixed target group and strategies that partially align
- services that fully align with the new CSGP

As stated in previous Communiqués it must be made clear that **the alignment process is not intended to identify specific services for exclusion from the CSGP or to defund services that do not align**. If services do not align with the results expected from the review, DoCS will work with them to assist with alignment over a reasonable period of time or assist with the move of these services to other, more appropriate funding programs. The Alignment Reports will be kept on electronic file for use by Head Office staff involved in the strategic planning and funding reform of CSGP, and will not be placed on a service's individual file.

#### **Service Specifications for 08/09**

Services should note that the Funding Reform process will take some time and therefore new Service Specifications will not be available for the forthcoming financial year. These will be developed once the Business Case has been submitted to Treasury. Instead, services will be funded under their existing Service Specifications for the 08-09 financial year. Negotiation of Service Specifications will take place during 2008/2009 for the 09-10 financial year as per the table included in Communiqué 4 which outlines a basic timeframe for CSGP. Communiqué 4 is available at: [Http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/DOCS/STANDARD/PC\\_100941.html](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/DOCS/STANDARD/PC_100941.html)

## **Maintenance of Effort Paper**

A Maintenance of Effort Paper was submitted in November 2007 to Treasury and DoCS will be notified of the success or otherwise of this proposal.

Ernst and Young are currently preparing the Final Business Case which should be available by the end of February. The Business Case will then be submitted to Treasury and made available for the 09-10 financial year.

## **General**

The Alignment Assessment of the CSGP funded service system has provided DoCS with a basis on which to align service provision funded through CSGP with specific program outcomes and to develop a Business Case for submission to Treasury.

DoCS has undertaken this process to cultivate improved services to our clients, providing support to children, families and young people in need and developing support for disadvantaged communities. The process requires dedication and commitment by many and we thank our partners on the CSGP Roundtable for their continued support.

I would encourage you to contact the following members of the Roundtable for further information regarding the CSGP Review, and to assist them in their role of contributing feedback to the process.

Information will be made available online at:

[http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/DOCS/STANDARD/PC\\_100941.html](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/DOCS/STANDARD/PC_100941.html)

Feedback or questions about the Review can be directed to the CSGP Roundtable Peaks:

[NCOSS](#) – Linda Frow – [info@ncoss.org.au](mailto:info@ncoss.org.au) - 02 9211 2599

[Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW](#) – Noel Baum - [noel.baum@lgsa.org.au](mailto:noel.baum@lgsa.org.au)  
(Social Policy Unit)- 02 9242 4090

[Western Sydney Community Forum](#) - Mary Waterford - [eo@wscf.org.au](mailto:eo@wscf.org.au) - 02 9687 9669

[NSW Family Services Inc](#) – Mike Sheargold - [admin@nswfamilyservices.asn.au](mailto:admin@nswfamilyservices.asn.au) –  
02 9692 9999

[Local Community Services Association](#) - Sandra Handley - [Results@lcsa.org.au](mailto:Results@lcsa.org.au) - 02 9211  
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[Youth Action Policy Association](#) – Rey Reodica – [info@yapa.org.au](mailto:info@yapa.org.au) - 02 9319 1100

Or by emailing: [CSGPReview@community.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CSGPReview@community.nsw.gov.au)