



Community Services Grants Program

Communiqué from the Director General

June 2008

Communiqué 6

This Communiqué is in response to apparent concerns by the sector in relation to the movement of CSGP funds in the NSW Budget papers, 2007/2008.

Following discussions with NSW Treasury it was acknowledged that CSGP services may be better aligned with the child protection elements of the DoCS Budget. The Budget papers indicate that CSGP funding has been moved from “Community Development and Capacity Building” in 2007/2008 to “Contracted Child Protection Services” in 2008/2009.

The four basic service activities identified in the CSGP Review will form the basis for a coordinated response to prevention and early intervention and child protection concerns in the community. These activities include Service Development and Community Capacity Building, Skills Development and Resilience Building, Coordinated Support and Intensive Support

Providing coordinated child protection and early intervention requires a whole of community approach to the provision of support services. DoCS remains committed to the development of services directed to strengthening families and communities and improving individual and community resilience.

Integrated service delivery systems in CSGP include the provision of services that provide intervention and support, assessment and referral, and community responses to support children, young people and families in their local community. Many CSGP services play a crucial role at the “prevention” end of the DoCS continuum of care by providing important entry points into the DoCS service system.

DoCS remains committed to supporting the contribution of services to community capacity building in local communities. Roundtable members have advocated for the reform of CSGP and have highlighted the need for funded services that cover the full range of activities from community capacity building to targeted child protection services.

The Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services provides an opportunity to recognise the unique contribution of the CSGP in supporting child protection, early intervention and community strengthening.

It is anticipated that the remodelled program will be developed in line with the new headline result of “Disadvantaged children, young people, families and disadvantaged communities are resilient and safe”.

With the continued support of the CSGP Roundtable and the CSGP service sector, the implementation of the review will develop the program into a service system that provides a comprehensive support network for the disadvantaged in our community.