

A Place to Call Home

Children and youth granting program



Equity Trustees will support innovative funding initiatives which focus on supporting young people effectively transition from Out of Home Care into the community.

Program Logic – What we know:

Despite the over-representation of young people from out-of-home care backgrounds in the youth justice system, mental health system, substance abuse services and homelessness services there remains a lack of strategic will to interrupt this all too common and tragic trajectory. While there are many contributing factors for vulnerable young people failing to transition effectively from Out of Home Care, at the heart of the issue is the absence of life skills, a connection to family and friends, and a secure home. At Equity Trustees, we believe these elements are critical in aspiring to and achieving 'an ordinary life'.

Research indicates that organisations demonstrating a strong understanding of the impact of trauma for young people are the most likely to enable a successful transition to adulthood. Promoting the opportunity for healing and access to evidence-supported therapeutic interventions, particularly those addressing the impact of complex trauma will also be required in order to strengthen transition pathways. It is essential for the development of young people to understand their own experiences, needs and strengths. The development of life skills are critical if we are to improve outcomes for young people transitioning from Out of Home Care to independent living.

Effective government policy and community sector leadership, are essential in order to strengthen pathways and supports for young people transitioning from Out of Home Care and improve outcomes for young people transitioning into the Community successfully.

Priority outcomes and promising approaches were identified by the Program Manager through a three part process: review of key literature, discussion with thought leaders in the sector, and review of previous grant outcomes. In this way, areas of need and approaches with high potential for impact that are in keeping with the intentions of Equity Trustees were identified.

Program Goal: Better outcomes for young Victorians transitioning from OOHC (Out of Home Care).

Priority Outcomes of the 'Place to Call Home Program'

The Foundation considers these five outcomes to be key to achieving the Enabling Education Program Goal:

1. **Collaboration:** increase activities supporting philanthropy and government working collectively for improved outcomes
2. **Connections:** young people have stronger links with support services and community
3. **Data:** is more readily available to develop better support services (Leverage and promote dissemination of existing research reports and recommendations for improved outcomes)
4. **Appropriate accommodation:** models exist to support young people transition from care
5. **Leadership:** Government and Community Sector leadership that provides better outcomes for young people leaving care.

In order to achieve this objective Equity Trustees have identified these preferred and promising approaches:

- New models or initiatives that can seek to change how transitioning from care can be achieved successfully by vulnerable and disadvantaged young people
- Programs or projects that seek to scale proven practices or seek to replicate or adapt elements of proven approaches with young people
- Initiatives that build positive connections between young people and community support services to guide a young person's ability to develop independent living skills
- Innovative models and programs delivered by out of home care providers and community organisations that foster greater connections for young people with the community
- Initiatives that support leadership and advocacy in policy change in out of home care
- Holistic approaches to service delivery, such as co-location of services, or joined up supported service delivery across education, employment and housing services
- Systemic change initiatives that address root causes of failing to successfully transition from the out of home care sector.

Eligibility for the Place to Call Home Program:

Equity Trustees can only consider requests from organisations that:

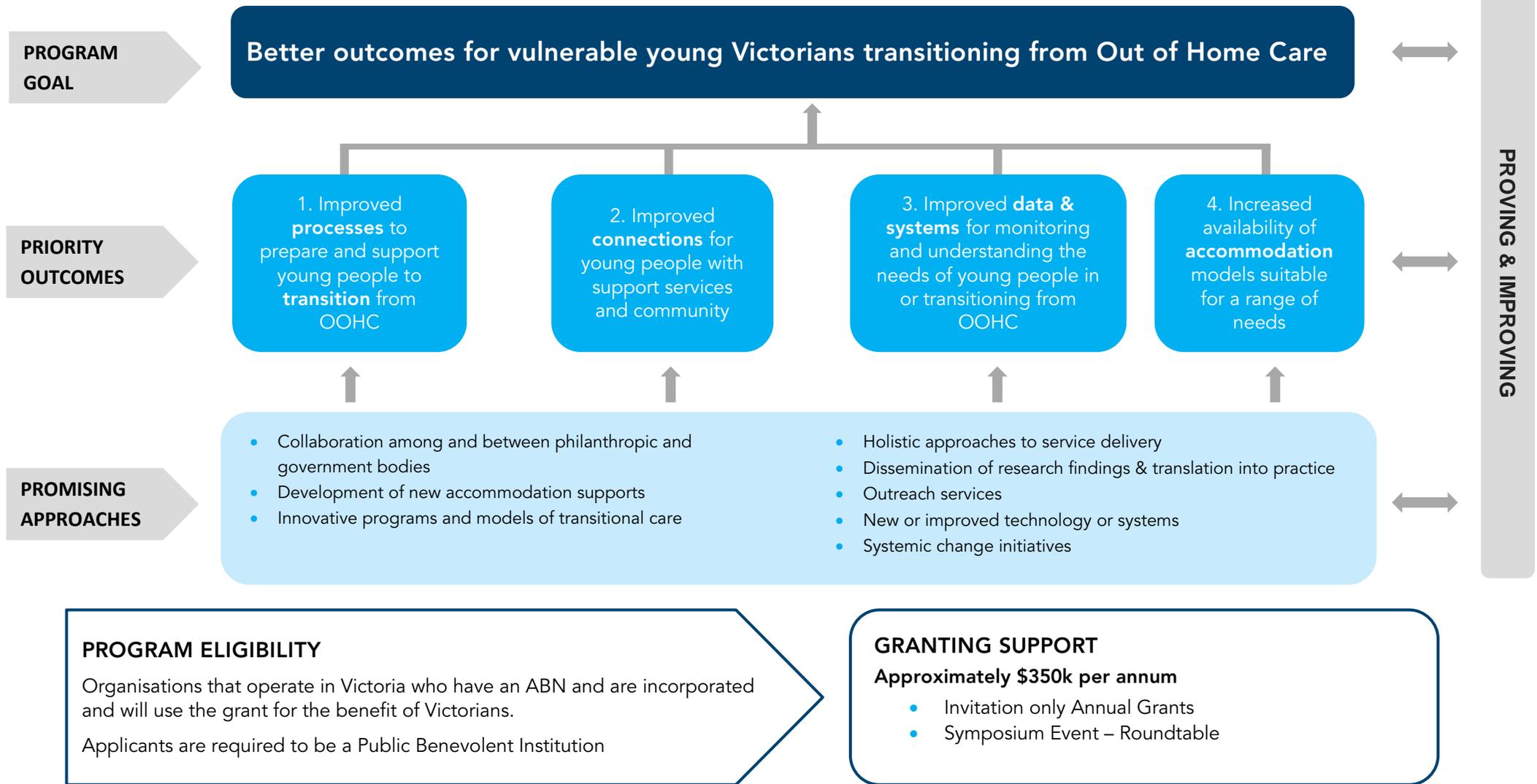
- Clearly demonstrate priority outcomes in one or more areas identified
- Operate in Victoria and who will use the grant for the benefit of Victorians

Applicants are required to be a:

- Public Benevolent Institutions

**For further information, contact Equity Trustees on
1300 133 472 or charities@eqt.com.au**

Equity Trustees – A Place to call Home – Transition from OOHC



* We will measure improved outcomes including:

- # and % young people living independently
- # and % young people presenting in criminal justice system
- Feelings of connectedness and isolation
- Transition readiness before and at transition
- Levels of engagement with support services
- Uptake of pre-employment or training services
- Improved data collection
- Understanding among philanthropists and government of the OOHC system needs of young people
- # of appropriate accommodation places/units and # young people housed

How to follow the map:

Eligibility – [Start of the process]

Granting support – [Granting approach Equity Trustees provides to the program and grantees]

Preferred and promising approaches – [Equity Trustees is particularly interested in supporting these types of activities that have either shown promise or been shown to produce the priority outcomes of the program. Other approaches will be considered.]

Priority outcomes – [Those outcomes considered necessary to achievement of the program goal. Grantees should articulate their program theory to show how their proposed activities will contribute to one or more of the program's priority outcomes. Each priority outcome will be accompanied by a suite of indicators.]

Program goal – [Better outcomes for vulnerable young Victorians transitioning from Out of Home Care*].