**Better Futures funding**

Better Futures has money to support your goals for independence.

Better Futures has **funding** to enable young people leave the child protection system with the resources and supports to stand alone and make their own decisions.

Leaving care can be scary – a Better Futures workers role is to help you make decisions and support you to establish a sense of home after care by finding out things such as:

* What does independence mean to **YOU**?
* What are **your plans** for the future?
* Do you want support to be stronger in **your culture**?
* How long has it been since you've reconnected with country?
* What makes your house a **home**?
* What could improve your wellbeing?
* Do you want to go to TAFE or Uni?
* Is there a job you like?
* Are there opportunities to move in with friends?
* Are you eligible for Centrelink payments?

**This funding (called Flexible Funding) can be used for:**

**Community & cultural connections** such as

* a return to country trip,
* Attending a NAIDOC event
* Joining a local community group or club

**Housing & living skills** including

* Furniture, whitegoods, kitchenware,
* Help with your budget,
* Learning to cook

**Your Health & wellbeing** including

* Parenting support,
* Joining a gym,
* Mental health support

**Education** needs such as

* Help with school,
* Driving lessons and getting your license

**Employment** opportunities such as

* A training course,
* Support to write a resume, and
* Clothes for job interviews and work

**Do any of these have ongoing costs?**

Talk to your Better Futures support worker about a **plan** for when your funding finishes.

Will you still be able to afford it?

**Important**

Ask your care team what other referrals, advocacy and funding supports you might be eligible for.

**For more information**

You can find information about Better Futures providers at [providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/better-futures](https://providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/better-futures)

**Ask Izzy** can help you find a variety of support services near you, at [askizzy.org.au/](https://askizzy.org.au/)

Project partners

VACCA: Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency - Connected by culture

Head Office 340 Bell Street Preston Victoria 3072

Phone (03) 92 87 88 00

Online: [vacca.org](https://www.vacca.org/)

Email: vacca@vacca.org

and

V A C Y P A: Victorian Aboriginal Children and young people's Alliance

ONLINE: v a c y p alliance.org

and

Victorian State Government