

**Abolish ParentsNext**  
Replace with Community Hubs and Online Services.

## Connection & Empowerment

- Providing information sessions & private meetings with an 'Adviser'.
- Informal and safe places to gather.
- A place for attendees to meet for peer-to-peer support and connections.
- Extension of existing community services such as community centres, local schools, playgroups etc.
- Hubs share information on local services, events, and or activities.
- Guest speakers from other services, eg community legal services or the NDIS.
- Access to the Internet.
- Acknowledges recovery, counselling, mental health, and well-being are part of future planning.

## Future Planning Community Hubs

### Education Support

- The Adviser will have knowledge or seek out specialist supports that can provide advice on gaining or furthering education.
- Work with local secondary or community schools. Assist with the enrolment process and coordinate childcare.
- Career & enrolment advice for TAFE, VET et.c. Up-to-date information on current and projected skills shortages and where secure future positions may be available.

## Work Ready & Employment

- Enable voluntary work.
- Provide information on interview techniques, assist with CV & applications.
- Provide financial assistance for work-ready skills and items to gain study or work.
- Implement the ParentsNext incentive model. Incentives paid to attendees, not the provider.

# Voluntary Community hubs and Online Assistance

Future Planning. A strength-based model for pre-employment services.  
A superior approach to the current workforce Australian model.

## Online

- Access to an Adviser similar to the 'mentor' at the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (Niece program).
- Develop an interactive online map that is updated by the 'Future Planning - Community Hubs' so that women who prefer to access and navigate the information can do so in their own time. Making it accessible to Australians who have digital literacy and access.

## Advisors

- Advisors have mentoring experience with diverse backgrounds reflective of the community where the hub is situated.
- Connected within their local community and skills with working with a diverse range of entities.
- Trauma-informed and have undergone the DV alert training, can provide warm referrals to specialist FDV services as requested by attendees.
- Competent in working within small groups and individuals as the support will be personalized and individualized.
- Connected with local businesses - promote flexibility to enable full-time mothering (often solo) whilst responding to local business needs.
- Direct line of access to Services Australia to assist with individual needs.

## The Service

- The Future Planning - Community Hubs are not financially incentivized and or penalized on ridged KPIs.
- Advisors will not have to manage referrals or exiting processes, a complex demit point dashboard, assessing family and domestic for exemptions, or other personal circumstances, as attendance is voluntary.
- The Future Planning - Community Hubs' will be evaluated for service enhancement and service continuation against established and clear purposes, aims, and objectives.

## Incompletion of Qualifications

Single mothers have incomplete qualifications due to family and domestic violence, periods of additional and substantive parenting needs, inflexible field placements, pandemic lockdowns, and inadequate resources. Common responses are:

- The youngest child turned 8 years and they lost access to the Parenting Payment.
- Parenting demands and insufficient resources prohibit full-time field placements.
- The ongoing effect or spike in post-separation family and domestic violence.

## Enanced Policy

The Government uses the social security database to identify and connect with women who have not completed their qualifications.

- Establish a connection service to broker a return to such institutions and or an online alternative. Currently, this task is too difficult due to the different & ridged rules of various institutions but with Government oversight, it could be achieved.
- To work with the University, TAFE, and Vet system to enable placement sharing or part-time placements.
- To institute a placement payment with the savings from this changed model.

Policy solutions to be part of the 5-year National Skills Agreement effective 2024.

