

# Fact sheet

## Youth Initiative Community Referrals

July 2024

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### What are Youth Initiative community referrals?

Youth Initiative (YI) Community Referrals allow vulnerable young people who have not screened in as eligible due to their age or specific circumstances to access YI services under certain conditions.

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### Who is eligible for a community referral?

Community referrals of young people can be made if they satisfy the following criteria:

1. In statutory OOHC/ have a history of statutory OOHC; **AND**
2. Aged 16-21 years; **AND**
3. Referred by medical professionals, educational institutions, or other service providers.

Please note: a referral does not ensure acceptance into the program – Service providers assess for availability and suitability.

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### How do I make a community referral?

Specialist Homelessness Services, Youth Justice, refuge, and residential care staff, OOHC caseworkers, educational professionals, medical professionals, and other service providers can all refer eligible young people directly to their local YI provider. If the YI provider accepts the referral, they will seek the young person's consent to verify their eligibility.

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### What if a young person does not consent?

A young person will need to agree to participate in YI and consent to having their eligibility verified by DCJ.

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### What support is available?

All young people receive access to a Personal Advisor and Education and Employment Mentor. Some young people will also have a Transitional Support Worker and access to YI accommodation.