Intensive Early Childhood Education and Care Research Project





Referral Form

Please email completed form to Nichola.coombs@unimelb.edu.au 0	0488 030 770
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Eligible Child / Children						
First Name	Surname	Gender	D.O.B	Address		
Adult Family Members (parent / primary caregiver)						
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First Name	Surname	Gender	Relationship	Primary contact YES / NO Phone Number		
Family's knowledge of the referral						
Is the family aware of the referral?						
Child and Family Issues (Current)						
☐ Attachment/Rel	ationship issues					
☐ Alcohol and/or substance use						
☐ Disability/complex medical issues						
☐ Mental Health Issues						
☐ Family Violence (current or past)						
☐ Other - please consult list overleaf and specify						
Factors that may cause a detriment to wellbeing or safety						
☐ Parent/Carer ur	nder 20 vrs old					
☐ Lack of ability or willingness to prioritise child's needs						
☐ Rejection of child						
☐ Harsh, inconsistent discipline,						
☐ Inadequate supervision						
☐ Other - please consult list overleaf and specify						
Is child: ☐ subject of statutory child protection order (current) ☐ subject of statutory child protection order (past) ☐ currently at risk of harm (any detriment to wellbeing), abuse or neglect which may be due to circumstances or events						
Interpreter require	ed? DYES	□ №	(Language)		
Completed By: Date:						
Professional Role:		Phone:				

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Child and family risk factors

- · Mental health issue or disorder, current or past (including self-harm or suicide attempts)
- Alcohol/substance abuse, current or past, addictive behaviours
- · Disability or complex medical needs, eg. intellectual or physical disability, acquired brain injury
- Newborn, prematurity, low birth weight, chemically dependent, foetal alcohol syndrome, feeding/sleeping/settling difficulties, prolonged and frequent crying
- Unsafe sleeping practices for infants, eg. side or tummy sleeping, ill-fitting mattress, cot cluttered with pillows, bedding or soft toys which can cover an infant's face, co-sleeping with sibling or parent who is on medication, drugs/alcohol or smokes, using other unsafe sleeping place such as a couch or exposure to cigarette smoke
- Disorganised or insecure attachment relationship (child does not seek comfort or affection from caregivers when in need)
- Developmental delay
- History of neglect or abuse, state care, child death or placement of child or siblings
- · Separations from parents or caregivers
- · Parent, partner, close relative or sibling with a history of assault, prostitution or sexual offences
- · Experience of intergenerational abuse/trauma
- · Compounded or unresolved experiences of loss and grief
- · Chaotic household/lifestyle/problem gambling
- · Poverty, financial hardship, unemployment
- · Social isolation (family, extended family, community and cultural isolation)
- Inadequate housing/transience/homelessness
- · Lack of stimulation and learning opportunities, disengagement from school, truanting
- Inattention to developmental health needs/poor diet
- Disadvantaged community
- Racism
- Recent refugee experience

Parent risk factors

- · Parent/carer under 20 years or under 20 years at birth of first child
- · Lack of willingness or ability to prioritise child's needs above own
- · Rejection or scapegoating of child
- · Inadequate supervision of child or emotional enmeshment
- · Single parenting/multiple partners

Source: Victorian Department of Human Services 2007 Best Interest Case Practice Model

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Referral, Eligibility and Consent Process

Family service case manager believes child eligible to participate

- · suitable for intensive early childhood education and care
- Child under 3 years of age
- 2+ risk factors (as identified in the DHS Best Interest Practice Guidelines)
- Child and family require ongoing Family Support Services

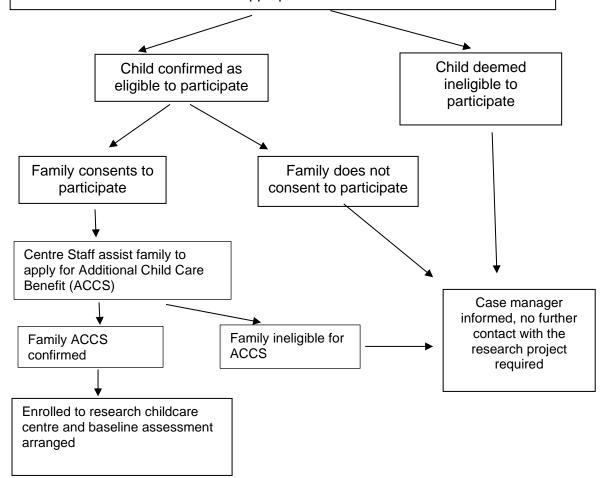
Case manager informs family of the opportunity to participate in the research project and the offer of 3-years childcare in the research childcare centre.

Briefly discuss with family (use script)

Fill in Referral Form

Email to Nichola.coombs@unimelb.edu.au Referrals will be considered in order of receipt as there are limited places in the centre

Research co-ordinator will contact family to arrange a meeting with her and a senior team member from the research childcare centre who will fully explain the research, confirm participant eligibility and invite family to consent where appropriate



Please direct questions to

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