



Kalgoorlie-Boulder Earlier Intervention and Family Support Service - Factsheet

Background

The Kalgoorlie-Boulder Earlier Intervention and Family Support Service (K-B EIFSS) is an intensive, joint case management approach to support vulnerable families in Kalgoorlie-Boulder with multiple and complex needs. This initiative has been funded after information from local government agencies and community service providers highlighted a relatively small number of individuals and families in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area were placing high levels of demand on policing, justice and child protection services.

K-B EIFSS Team

The team consists of staff from the Department of Communities – Child Protection and Family Support, WA Police and the Department of Education, including:

- Project Manager
- Police Sergeant
- Senior Child Protection Worker
- Regional Consultant Aboriginal Education
- 2 Intensive Family Workers
- Youth Crime Intervention Officers
- In-Home Support Worker
- Administration Officer

Additionally, there is a commitment from Department of Communities – Housing, and the Departments of Health and Corrective Services to provide responsive and prioritised service delivery and resources.

The team are co-located to facilitate the sharing of information in 'real time' and co-ordinate joint planning and responses.

Model

The K-B EIFSS team works with families to agree behaviour change goals for all members of the family. Work focuses on parenting goals related to education, employment and home skills, and could include:

- supporting parents to develop and maintain children's routines, to provide a stable environment in which children can thrive;
- assisting parents in maintaining the care of their homes and managing budgets to ensure tenancies are sustained and children have a stable living environment;
- building on homemaking skills including, shopping, meal preparation, house cleaning, resulting in children's improved health and social presentation;
- limits on numbers of visitors to the home and appropriate times for visits to ensure children have consistent routines and positive behaviour models;
- attending to appropriate health, mental health, drug and alcohol and other appointments with services to address the needs of the children and themselves;



- engaging with corrective services, where applicable, to manage probation, community orders etc; and
- supporting families to abstain from criminal and anti-social activity, including domestic abuse.

The K-B EIFSS project involves:

- intensive work with up to 5 families involved with multiple agencies at a time, with approximately 10 to 15 families over each year of the project;
- families referred are expected to be the 'hard to reach' group;
- a whole of family approach that includes in-home practical support and assistance;
- flexible brokerage funding to be available to support directed service provision according to the individual needs of each family; and
- an evaluation of the project to be undertaken, with links to other early intervention projects across the state.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been signed between agencies that outlines roles and responsibilities around information sharing and joint-working.

Ongoing progress and outcomes will be available as the project progresses.

