

Accessing MAYFS services

Eligibility

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people aged 10 to 17 years who have had or at risk of contact with the youth justice system within metropolitan Adelaide.

Referrals



Young people can be referred to MAYFS through South Australia Police, Youth Justice, the courts, schools, Department of Child Protection (DCP), community service organisations, self-referral or by parents or carers.

Contact details

-  dhs.sa.gov.au/MAYFS
-  mayfs.info@sa.gov.au
-  Freecall: 1800 NUKKIN (1800 685 546)
-  9 Bayer Road, Elizabeth South SA 5112





Feedback

DHS Client Feedback

-  dhs.sa.gov.au/feedback
-  GPO Box 292 Adelaide SA 5001

Alternative formats

The information in this publication can be provided in an alternative format or another language on request by calling 1800 685 546.

    /HumanServicesSA

May 2026 | HS-1160



MAYFS

Metropolitan Aboriginal Youth and Family Services

MAYFS is a dedicated Aboriginal service with a focus on diverting young people away from the justice system and toward improved life outcomes.

Our approach

Our Cultural Mentor Service and Programming are an Aboriginal youth and family inclusive service with a strong focus on strengthening Aboriginal young people's connection to family, community and culture.

We recognise that young people are more likely to make positive changes in their lives if they have an active role in decision-making and planning, a supportive community, and access to positive opportunities for learning and social connections.

We work in partnership with other agencies, including Youth Justice, South Australia Police, the courts, schools, the NDIS, as well as non-government and community service organisations to provide access to a range of services, program and youth opportunities.

Our staff

MAYFS staff understand Aboriginal culture and have the skills and experience to meet the needs of Aboriginal young people who have been in contact with the youth justice system, and their families.

Our aspirations

Our approach supports young people to:

- be engaged in education, training or work
- be engaged in community activities such as arts, culture, music, sport and recreation
- develop healthy relationships with family and friends
- understand risky behaviors and strengthen youth decision making
- be confident, empowered, proud, respectful and be a role model to others
- be better connected to culture and community.

What we offer

- Flexible programming opportunities for social participation and cultural connection, including recreational, sport, language, dance and music.
- Support to identify the strengths of the young person and their family, and meet their needs in a way that is culturally responsive and informed.
- Family-inclusive client management that includes Aboriginal Family Led Decision Making to identify the strengths of the young person and their family, and meet their needs in a way that is culturally responsive and informed.
- Behavioural and cultural-centred yarning circles that help the young person.
- Youth and family support with youth justice requirements, providing support, advocacy, explaining and navigating the youth justice system.
- Supported referrals to other services, including mental health, domestic violence, housing, financial counselling, drug and alcohol services and more.