



## Professional Support Service Providers

PSCTas has engaged a number of Professional Support Service Providers (PSSPs) to provide training, advice and support to Tasmanian Children's Services. As coordinator of professional support, the role of PSCTas is to assist child care services to identify training and support needs and match those needs with an appropriate provider.

PSSPs must register an interest and if they meet the criteria, are placed on a register of preferred providers. In some cases, PSSPs are engaged on a one-off basis for a specific need (e.g. OH&S, Speech and Language Development), while other PSSPs are contracted on a longer-term basis to fulfil a range of functions, usually to a specific region or sector.

The following PSSPs have been contracted for one year (renewable in 2007) to deliver services for PSCTas:

### 1. Mersey Leven Child Care Services 32-36 Valley Road Devonport.

MLCCS will provide professional support and training to Family Day Care Schemes statewide and to the OSHC sector in the North West region (64), including scheduled training events as part of the PSCTas training calendars, customised training, advice, support and resources as needed.

### 2. fka Children's Services 9-11 Stewart Street Richmond Victoria

Bicultural Support - fka will provide initial advice and support to services when including Indigenous children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and refugee children. This will include telephone and/or email support and the provision of resources. If fka assesses that a bilingual worker is required to visit a service to assist with settling in, communication or the development of culturally inclusive practices, this will be referred back to PSCTas for referral to a PSSP who manages the casual bicultural support pool.

fka is also contracted to support services throughout the state on Culturally Inclusive Practice and Diversity

### 3. Centacare Tasmania 35 Tower Road New Town

Provision of a pool of bilingual workers who will be engaged on a casual basis to assist southern-based services when including Indigenous children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and refugee children into care. The main objective is for the worker to assist in bridging the communication gap between staff, parents and children, to help develop an understanding of the family's culture and practices and to maintain the first language of the child through stories, songs and play.

### 4. MRC Northern Tasmania 95-99 Cameron Street Launceston

Provision of a pool of bilingual workers who will be engaged on a casual basis to assist northern and north-western based services when including Indigenous children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and refugee children into care. The main objective is for the worker to assist in bridging the communication gap between staff, parents and children, to help develop an understanding of the family's culture and practices and to maintain the first language of the child through stories, songs and play.

### 5. Campbell Burnett Training Services 229 Campbell Street Hobart

Campbell Burnett will support centre-based services statewide and OSHC services in the northern (63) and southern regions (62). This will include both scheduled and customised training events, advice, resources and support with Quality Assurance systems and processes, curriculum and programming, leadership, management and governance, business administration and human resource management.

### 6. Tas Healthcare 31 Cambridge Road Bellerive

Tas Healthcare has been contracted to manage the pool of Specialist Equipment available to children's services through PSCTas when including children with ongoing high support needs related to a disability who require specialised equipment to support their placement in child care. Tas Healthcare is responsible for the delivery and collection of items on loan to services, storage, repairs and maintenance. Requests for specific items of equipment must be on the recommendation of the child's therapist and made through PSCTas.

### 7. Noah's Ark Inc. 590 Orrong Road Armadale Victoria

Noah's Ark is contracted to deliver professional support and training to children's services statewide and to Inclusion Support Facilitators according to need. The professional support services offered by Noah's Ark Learning and Development are designed to enable services to implement practices that support provision of quality child care environments that value and respond to children in their diversity and support inclusive practice.