

The Snapshot

Welcome to the FRMP Newsletter, Winter Edition

MCM's Family Reconciliation and Mediation Program (FRMP) is a state-wide service funded by the Victorian Government. FRMP provides brokerage funding and other capacity building activities for the youth homelessness sector.

[Learn more](#)



Family Sensitive Practice training opportunity and participant feedback

In partnership with The Bouverie Centre, FRMP is offering free Family Sensitive Practice training at our North Fitzroy office on

July 23rd 2025, 9:30am to 2:30pm. Subjects that will be covered include:

- Understanding and implementing family-sensitive practice
- Applying a trauma-informed approach
- Integrating culture
- Engaging families and fostering hope
- Worker self-care

To express your interest in this fantastic opportunity please email frmp@mcm.org.au

We recently held a session in Bendigo and here is what a participant had to say:

"The training was informative and incredibly relevant to our work. It gave us a solid understanding of how to use a family-relational framework and apply trauma-informed, culturally sensitive approaches when working with young people and their chosen families. The interactive format—especially the group discussions and case reflections—made it easy to connect the content to real-life practice. It was great to explore practical ways to engage families, foster hope, and bring these ideas into our everyday work. The facilitator was fantastic—knowledgeable, engaging, and professional. Franca Butera-Prinzi created a safe space for open conversation and made sure everyone felt heard. The session also touched on the importance of self-care, which was a great reminder of how we can look after ourselves while supporting others. Overall, it was a valuable and empowering session that left us with a lot to think about and apply"





'Building Bridges: Supporting Young People Experiencing School Can't' - online panel discussion

It is widely known that an increasing number of young people are finding it difficult to stay engaged with school. In response, the FRMP team are hosting a panel discussion on **Tuesday, August 13th from 10am to 11:30am**. This event will bring together a diverse panel of experts who will share valuable insights and practical strategies to support practitioners working with children, young people and families experiencing School Can't. Speakers include:

- Glenn Melvin - Associate Professor School of Psychology (Deakin University)
- Hayley Prasad - Youth Expert Training and Project Officer (Brotherhood of St. Laurence)
- Jodi Long - Educational Research Lead David Scott School (Brotherhood of St. Laurence)
- Noeleen Denby - Operations Manager Living Learning (mcm)
- Richard Crawshaw - Re-engagement Specialist/Parent Advocate (Can't Face School)
- Tiffany Westphal - Director (School Can't Australia)

The discussion will be facilitated by Sally Lasslett (she/her), Executive Principal of Hester Hornbrook Academy.

Discussion topics will include:

- Encouraging young people to recognize the benefits of attending school and helping them overcome barriers to engagement.
- Supporting young people when parental support is unavailable or limited.

- Managing transitions, such as returning to school or switching schools.
- Best practices and legal considerations related to 'School Can't'.
- Current, evidence-based strategies to help reengage young people in education.
- Supporting neurodivergent students in the school environment.
- Exploring alternative schooling options and available resources within the education system.

While this panel discussion is especially beneficial for youth homelessness sector workers, it is open to anyone who works with young people and their families.



[Register here](#)

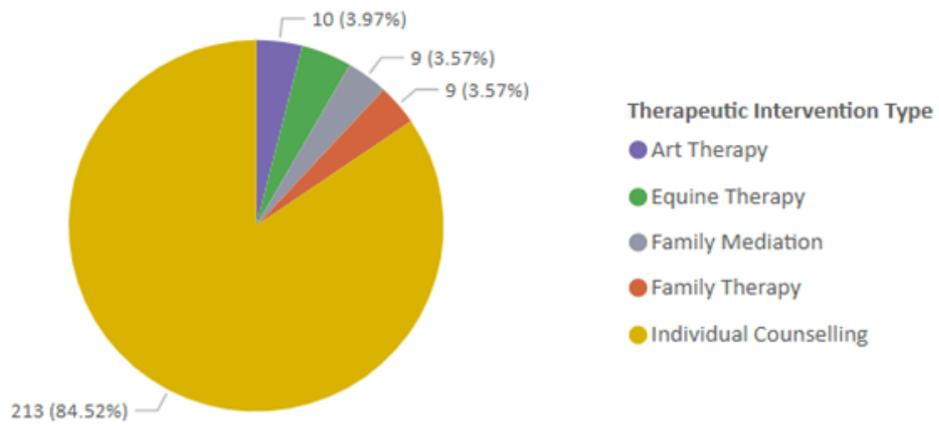
EOFY FRMP Statistics!

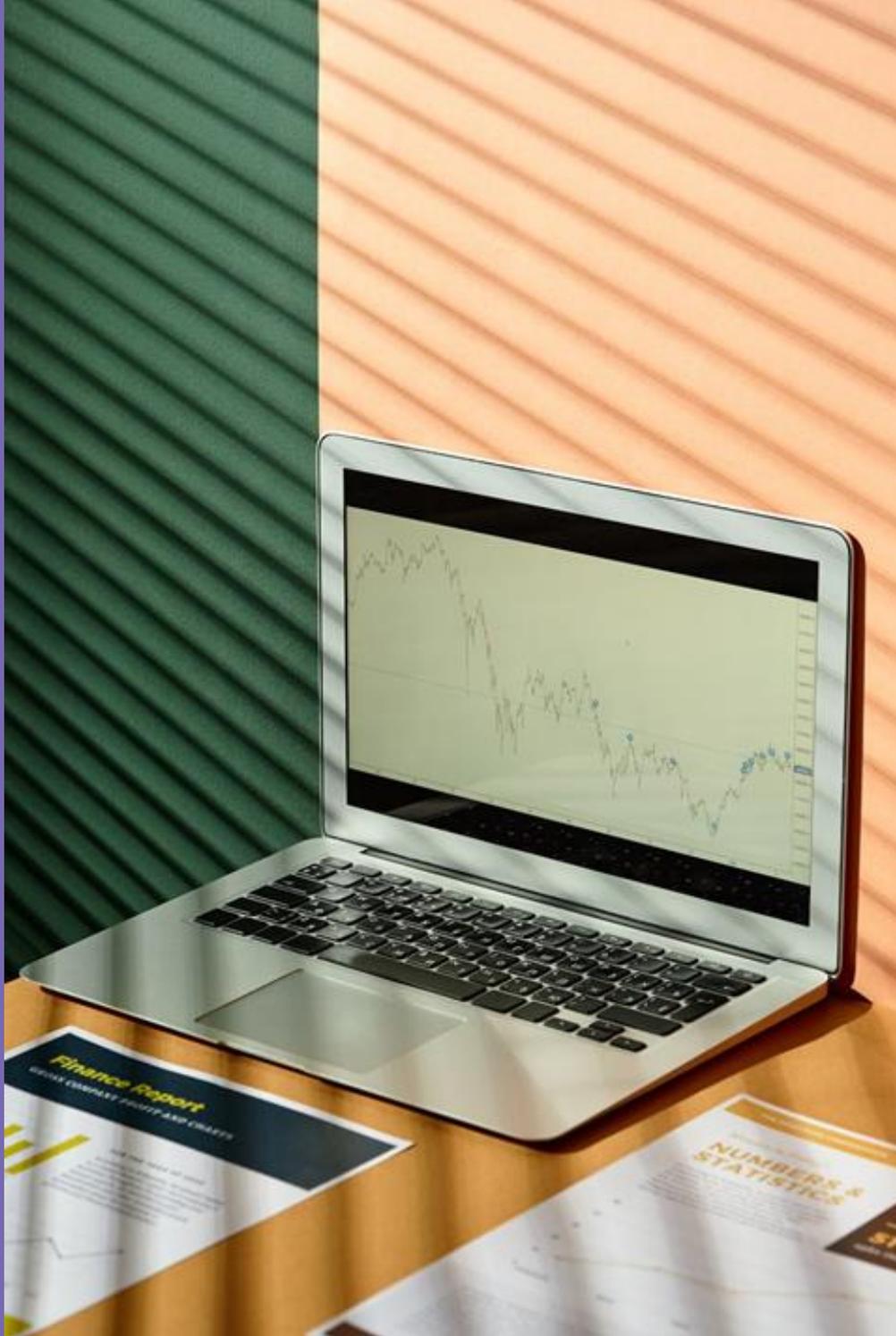
As we draw to the end of the financial year, the FRMP team is proud to share some statistics to demonstrate the impact that our brokerage funding is having thanks to your support and engagement with FRMP. Here are some highlights:

- Out of the applications that were approved this FY, **814 therapeutic intervention sessions** have been attended by young people across the state!
- We've received applications from approximately **45** different youth services organisations and secondary schools across the state.
- We now have approximately **90** therapists on our register statewide!
- The most referrals have been received by **Harrison Carter** in Shepparton! Closely followed by Dean Ferris, Rebecca

Kelly and Sharon Churchill. Please check out our spotlight article on Harrison Carter and his Get Psych'd clinic below.

- The organisations with the biggest number of submitted applications were Anglicare, MCM, Berry Street and Meli.
- Individual counselling has been the most popular therapy choice followed equally by equine therapy and art therapy.





Spotlight on Get Psych'd Youth Psychology



In 2021, Adolescent Psychologist **Harrison Carter** founded *Get Psych'd Youth Psychology* in Bendigo—a practice dedicated to supporting young people through accessible mental health care.

“Our goal at Get Psych'd is to reach and enrich the lives of young people—especially those who are disadvantaged, vulnerable, or unable to afford mental health support,” says Harrison. *“Organisations like **Melbourne City Mission (MCM)** and the **FRMP program** are crucial in helping bridge the gap for young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, along with their families.”*

Supporting Engagement Through Collaboration

Engaging young people in therapy often takes a team effort. At Get Psych'd, the team works closely with support workers to help young people stay connected to services and maintain their therapeutic journey.

D.I.Y: Drop-In for Youth

One standout initiative is the Drop In for Youth (D.I.Y.) program—a free drop-in service designed to help young people and young adults learn more about accessing mental health support. While it was initially created for new clients, D.I.Y. has become a powerful tool for **re-engaging young people who have missed appointments or are at risk of disengagement.**

By offering a low-pressure, accessible space, D.I.Y. helps overcome barriers that might prevent young people from continuing therapy and supports them in staying connected—ensuring they don't lose vital funding or services.

[Learn more about Get Psych'd](#)

New therapists on the FRMP register

Please also welcome the following therapists who have recently signed up to support young people experiencing (or at risk of) homelessness:

- Benjamin Bradley - Mental Health Social Worker (Ballarat)
- Cody Fisher - Counsellor/Psychotherapist (Wollert)
- Amanda Harris - Mental Health Social Worker (Bairnsdale)
- Beth Carlisle - Mental Health Social Worker (Leongatha)
- Garth Phillips - Psychologist (Traralgon)
- Suzy Marty - Counsellor (Leongatha)



Contact Us

The FRMP team has allocated contacts for the regions:

- **Poppy Fotiadis:** Metro West (incl. CBD), Metro North and Loddon Mallee
- **Cassie de Ruyter:** Metro South, Metro East and Gippsland
- **Linda Schwan:** Grampians, Hume and Barwon South West

Please contact the team on **03 9977 0046** or frmp@mcm.org.au with any enquiries.



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Family Reconciliation Mediation Program (FRMP)

Melbourne City Mission

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