

Memorandum of Understanding

Partnership Proposal: [Partnering Organisation] and National Centre for Childhood Grief (NCCG)

National Centre for Childhood Grief (NCCG)

One in 20 of Australian children will experience the death of a parent before the age of 18. Prior to reaching adulthood, many other children will face the loss of another significant loved one including a sibling, grandparent, cousin, aunt, uncle, or friend. We know this will have a profound and life-long impact on children and yet childhood grief remains poorly understood. There are few services available that specialise in child bereavement counselling and provide this as a free and unlimited service until adulthood.

The NCCG is dedicated to helping bereaved children and their families rebuild their lives. By providing a safe and nurturing space through the NCCG's specialised individual and group programs, bereaved children and their families learn to live with their grief, empowering them to live their best life possible.

The Centre was established in 1994 by founders Mal and Dianne McKissock, internationally recognised experts in the field of child bereavement and grief counselling. Both Mal and Dianne have been honoured with an OAM for their important contribution. The NCCG is a not-for-profit organisation that operates from 'A Friend's Place', our dedicated bereavement care centre in Denistone East, Sydney. The Centre has an experienced team of specialist bereavement counsellors and trained volunteer support workers, led by our Clinical Director, Dr Elizabeth Mann, ensuring the effective delivery of our services.

The NCCG relies on the generosity of our donors whose ongoing support allows us to develop and deliver services independently and with a focus on quality and compassion. The NCCG receives very little funding from government and this service is mainly funded by individual and corporate donations. Partnerships like these also contribute greatly to ensuring our children's services can remain free and unlimited for families whose financial security is often also compromised.

[Partnering Organisation]

Description of who they are, what care they provide and which population they support.

Packages

- The NCCG will provide 4-6 counselling sessions over a twelve-month period. The duration and frequency of sessions will be negotiated by the NCCG and the referred client.
- The NCCG will agree with the referred client the preferred delivery methods of service (in person or online).
- [Partnering Organisation] agrees to cover the cost of the package at \$190 per session up to six sessions per family member in a 12-month period.

- If a client requires further support after the agreed 4-6 sessions, this will require a meeting between the NCCG, [Partnering Organisation] and the client to discuss continuation of service or referral elsewhere.
- Following this, the NCCG will provide support to referred clients up to the age of 18 or when they leave school at no cost. Upon reaching that age, the client may shift onto the NCCG's adult bereavement counselling services program which involves a fee-for-service.
- The NCCG will only liaise with approved staff member/s of [Partnering Organisation]. [Partnering Organisation] will only liaise with the nominated staff members at the NCCG in line with relevant privacy and confidentiality legislation.
- During the time that a client is receiving a package from the NCCG, [Partnering Organisation] will continue to work with the client to address any needs that may arise and will communicate any relevant information with the NCCG, as per the client's consent.

Engagement Process

Steps:

1. [Partnering Organisation] will contact the client to discuss referral and gain consent, explain nature of service and hand the client over to the nominated staff member within the NCCG. How [Partnering Organisation] and the NCCG will share client information will be explained to the client.
2. [Partnering Organisation] will submit a referral form to the NCCG in writing.
3. Once the NCCG have spoken with the client, negotiated sessions, times and frequency, the NCCG will invoice [Partnering Organisation] for payment per session.
4. [Partnering Organisation] will confirm acceptance and provide payment directly to the NCCG.
5. The NCCG commit to providing evaluation and reporting to the [Partnering Organisation] about client progress to ensure no duplication of service and allow [Partnering Organisation] to provide additional support that may fall outside of the remit of the NCCG.
6. Parties agree to liaise if circumstances change (for whatever reason) and discuss re-assessment.

[Partnering Organisation] Representative

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

National Centre for Childhood Grief Representative

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____