



Transition Support Service



Together with community partners

Transition Support Services

Mā te huruhuru, ka rere te manu.

Prepare our rangatahi well, so that they can realise their potential.

Every rangatahi has different goals for their adult lives. Being discharged from care or custody is a big milestone, and this transition is one that can come with many challenges, changes and new experiences.

Rangatahi have the right to be supported as they prepare for adulthood. Developing their own plan and having relationships and connections that will assist them to succeed is a core part of the transition from care or custody into adulthood.

Oranga Tamariki is working together with a number of community and Iwi-Māori partners to offer ongoing assistance and support to rangatahi.

Eligibility and entitlements

Rangatahi are eligible for Transition Support Services if they have been in care or youth justice custody for over three continuous months from their 15th birthday.

To find out if a rangatahi is eligible, call the transition assistance helpline on **0800 55 89 89**.

Rangatahi eligible for Transition Support Services could be entitled to:

- support from a community-based transition worker until they turn 21
- remain or return to living with a caregiver from the age of 18 until they turn 21
- advice and assistance until they turn 25

Transition Support Services can help rangatahi:

Grow and thrive

- Experience what it means to be an adult.
- Access adult services and entitlements.
- Grow skills and confidence as they become more independent.

With their goals and needs which will change over time.



By working together

Rangatahi, whānau and family, caregiver, social worker, transition worker, transition assistance team and other professionals and agencies.

Wherever they are.

Wherever rangatahi find themselves, in their lives and across Aotearoa, Transition Support Services is available to help.



Transition Support Services can help rangatahi aged 15-25 years:

- get information
- find a place to live
- obtain employment
- enrol in education or training
- get legal advice
- get financial support
- get a driver's licence
- get counselling and health services

As rangatahi transition into adulthood, they will be supported to connect with:

- their whānau and family, whakapapa and culture
- adult disability services and supports
- Work and Income, StudyLink and financial support
- other adult services and community agencies
- people and resources

Financial support

Rangatahi will be assisted to access financial support that they are entitled to and that is available to them as an adult.

Financial help can be available to rangatahi through Transition Support Services when:

- things get tough
- when rangatahi need assistance to be independent
- when other financial support is not available

Where to next:

To find out if rangatahi are eligible, or for more information about how to access Transition Support Services, please contact:

- a care or youth justice social worker
- a caregiver social worker
- a transition worker
- one of our transition advisors at the **Transition assistance helpline** on **0800 55 89 89** to see how we can help



ORANGA TAMARIKI
Ministry for Children

Transition assistance helpline
0800 55 89 89

The rangatahi transition journey

An indicative timeline

15 years old

- Rangatahi becomes eligible for Transition Support Services

16 years old

- Social worker can refer rangatahi to a transition worker, with their consent

17 years old

- Social worker completes a transition plan 6 months prior to rangatahi being discharged from care or custody

- An arrangement is made for rangatahi to remain living with their caregiver, if this is agreed

18 years–21 years old

- Transition worker will provide ongoing support, advice and assistance to rangatahi
- Rangatahi is entitled to remain or return to living with a caregiver

21–25 years old

- Rangatahi can get advice and assistance any time they need it

Transition planning

The social worker will support rangatahi in their daily life and by helping them to prepare for their journey into adulthood, while they are in care or youth justice custody.

Transition planning kōrero and hui will start with rangatahi, whānau and family, and caregiver from age 15.

Rangatahi will be supported to develop the relationships, skills and plans they need to transition into adulthood successfully.

Staying on with a caregiver

Rangatahi have the option to continue (or return to) living with whānau/nonkin caregivers after their discharge from care. This arrangement gives rangatahi the opportunity to increase their independence with ongoing support from their caregiving whānau.

Staying on with caregiving whānau is an option from 18 to 21 years old, with support from Oranga Tamariki.

Transition worker

Rangatahi can choose to have a transition worker to support them in a way that works for them.

The transition worker will keep in touch with and support rangatahi after they have been discharged from care or youth justice until they turn 21.

Transition workers are not Oranga Tamariki staff, they work for Iwi-Māori or community partner organisations.

Transition assistance

Rangatahi can get advice and assistance any time they need it.

Until the age of 25, transition advisors at the transition assistance helpline are available to provide advice and assistance to rangatahi and to those supporting them (whānau and family, caregiver, community support, professionals).

Transition advisors will also keep in touch with rangatahi who do not want to have a transition worker.



Rangatahi led



Life Skills



Connection to community and whānau



Making a plan



Entitlement to Remain or Return to Living with a Caregiver (ETRR)



A transition worker helps rangatahi:

- with relationships
- take the lead
- build independence
- by being there.

Transition assistance helpline
0800 55 89 89

transitionsupport@ot.govt.nz

Monday to Friday 8:30am to 7pm

Emergency support is also available 24/7 on this number