



# Reconnect Volunteer

Supporting families  
reconnect



**Time commitment:** 2-4 hrs per week



**Location:** Geelong, Surfcoast, Bellarine



**Induction/Training:** Approx 5 hours

## About the program

The Reconnect program provides support services for young people aged between 12 - 18 years, who are thinking about leaving home or who have been out of home for a short time.

The Reconnect program works closely with schools, community organisations and government departments to assist young people and their families in the early stages of family breakdown. Sometimes it will be possible to resolve issues so that a young person at risk of homelessness can continue to live with their family. Other times the young person may live away from home, so the focus is on rebuilding a supportive relationship with their family.

## Your role

You will provide mentoring and practical support to young people in the Reconnect Program. This position reports to the Senior Reconnect Worker and Program Manager.

You will spend leisure time with young people and support them through what can be a challenging time by being a good listener. You will also assist occasionally with transporting young people to school or appointments.

## Possible tasks

- Offering support and a non-judgemental approach.
- Visit on a regular basis to provide connection to the community and engage in activities such as going out for a coffee and a chat, or similar meaningful activities.
- Offer practical support e.g. Driving to an appointment, transporting to school.
- Help build a child's self-esteem and confidence through encouragement and positive experiences.
- Documenting activities, small data entry tasks.

## Our Values:

Hope - Justice - Collaboration - Compassion - Respect

### You will be required to

- Sign and actively abide by MacKillop's Code of Conduct
- Observe and actively support MacKillop's P.8 People and Workplace Policy
- Attend mandatory and other training as required
- Participate in and promote continuous quality improvement processes
- Promote an environment that is culturally safe and strengths focussed
- Abide by principles and commitments of the Sanctuary Framework
- Participate in regular supervision and undergo all relevant compliance checks

### Key selection criteria

The Reconnect Volunteer will need:

- the ability to build positive relationships;
- a non-judgmental approach;
- an understanding of child development and the specific needs of adolescents;
- a commitment to supporting people in challenging circumstances;
- patience, empathy and listening skills;
- a flexible approach;
- teamworking and organisational skills.

### About MacKillop Family Services

MacKillop Family Services continues our founders' passionate commitment to social justice - to work for the rights of children, young people and families to be safe, to learn, feel nurtured and connected to culture. We provide high quality services to promote healing from trauma and loss, and to enable hopeful futures. MacKillop Family Services will care compassionately, respond large-heartedly and advocate courageously.



MacKillop Family Services acknowledges the Traditional Custodians and their Elders in each of the Communities where we work.



MacKillop celebrates and draws strength from diversity and respects the dignity of all people. We value an inclusive culture where lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, gender diverse, intersex and asexual people (LGBTIQA+) have the right to be safe.



[volunteer@mackillop.org.au](mailto:volunteer@mackillop.org.au)



0423 612 677



[mackillop.org.au](http://mackillop.org.au)