

Stay Informed

- The information is used to inform policy and practice to improve the outcomes of children, young people and their families. The POCLS stakeholders are several government departments (including the Department of Communities and Justice, Ministry of Health and Department of Education), non-government agencies and universities.
- We share the study's findings through reports, evidence to action notes, webinars, newsletters, and interactive dashboards.
- You can check out our website for more information and to see the latest updates.

What are the Study Timelines?

We would love for you to join our Survey for young adults aged 18-25 years. The interviews will start in mid-2025.

We will start reporting the findings in 2026.

Ethics Approvals

The Study has been approved by the following Human Research Ethics Committees:

- University of NSW Human Research Ethics Committee (no. HC 210985)
- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW Ethics Committee (no. 766/10 continued)
- NSW Department of Education State Education Research Approval Process (SERAP) (no. 2012260)
- NSW Population & Health Services Research Ethics Committee (no. HREC/14/CIPHS/74 Cancer Institute NSW: 2014/12/570)
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (EO2019-1-406).

Participation in this study is voluntary and you can withdraw at any time.

Who is Conducting the Study?

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) is running a study with some awesome researchers from the following universities:

- University of Sydney
- University of New South Wales
- University of South Australia
- Kurungkurl Katitjin - Edith Cowan University
- University of Wollongong
- Sax Institute
- University of Canterbury - New Zealand
- Chapin Hall Centre for Children - University of Chicago.

The research project is also guided by the Study's Aboriginal Governance Panel made up of practitioners, academics and community members, chaired by AbSec.

The interviews are being conducted by Ipsos <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au> who are social research data collection experts.

Want to Know More?

- If you want to know more about the study or have any questions you can phone us at 1800 997 960 or email us at: pathways@dcj.nsw.gov.au
- If you want to know more about the study please click on this link to the study webpage: <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/information-for-participants/for-young-adults.html>
- If you want some help, contact the DCJ Care Leavers Line Phone: 1800 994 686; Email: careleavers@dcj.nsw.gov.au



About the Study: Information for Young People 18-25 Years Old

Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study

The artwork was created by a young person who grew up in care.

"The banner and logo show many pathways through the care system with a carer or caseworker acting as a guide, ultimately leading to independence for every young person. Whether we live with family or strangers, study, work or just try our best, the paths we choose and are guided through in our youth are what we use to prepare ourselves for the happiest adulthood we can achieve." Billy Black





What is the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study?

The Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study is a very important study in NSW that started in 2010 to improve the lives of children and teenagers who live with other people in their family (such as their grandparents), or with foster parents.

The study is designed to gather the voices of children, teenagers and their caregivers to understand better, and improve, the services and support for children, their families and for the adults that care for them.

The study is now trying to work out what life is like for young adults aged 18-25 years old. We would really like to hear your ideas about what help young people need, and what support could make their lives better.

Study Aims

- **Understand Your Journey:** This is to understand who and what helped, and what didn't, when you were younger and since turning 18 years old.
- **Improve Services:** Your feedback will help us improve the services and support across health, education, work, housing, relationships with family, kin and community.
- **Shape the Future:** By sharing your experiences, and ideas, you can help shape policies and practices to make life better for everyone.

Study Aims

- **To learn more about the Study's aims:** the study webpage has information and a video about why we are doing this study and resources we have made from what you have told us. Click on this link <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.html>

What are the Key Research Questions?

We would like to hear from 18-25 year olds like you about:

- Your thoughts on your time living with other people in your family or with foster carers
- What factors have influenced your health, education, work, and relationships
- What you think about the support you received after turning 18 years; and what support you need.

Who Can Join?

If you're 18-25 years old and have been part of the study when you were under 18 years, or if your caregiver was involved, we would like to hear from you again!

We want to hear from a range of people across NSW including Aboriginal people, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and people with a disability.

How to be Involved?



Participate in the Interview: A trained interviewer will arrange to meet you. The interview questions focus on your experiences and ideas. The interview uses measures and questions used in other studies like this one. There are also questions where you can describe your experiences in your own words.



Time and Gift: The interview takes about an hour and a half to complete, and you'll get a \$100 gift voucher as a thank you!



Voluntary: Before starting the interview, we will ask for your consent and make sure you understand the purpose of this study. You can change your mind at any time and also not answer questions you don't want to answer.



Confidential: All your answers will be kept confidential. In any publication, information is presented in such a way that no person can be identified.



Data security: Your answers are securely stored in the Secure Unified Research Environment (SURE) <https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/solutions/sure/>. Only approved researchers can access the data under strict conditions to analyse the data as approved by the study's ethics committees.