

# Talking with young people

For Out-of-Home Care (OOHC) providers in the  
context of COVID-19

**Module Two:** Intersectionality and additional  
considerations in working with young people

- The Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and live, and recognises their continuing connection to land, water and community.
- The Centre pays our respects to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander elders: past, present and emerging.



# Housekeeping

- Oliver Tsorbaris from the Centre who is moderating this session
- Please contribute to the session by asking questions through chat or Q & A
- There are four polls during the session where you will be asked to share your responses
- The information you receive today should be used as a guide only

# The modules

**Module One:** How young people may be impacted by COVID-19.

**Module Two:** Intersectionality and additional considerations in working with young people.

**Module Three:** Responding to behaviours of concern

**Module Four:** Talking with young people about family and community, trauma, suicidality and hope.

# Overview

The following presentation contains the second of four modules. Each module provides guidance and suggestions for carers of children and young people (between the ages of 10 – 18 years) in OOHC during a crisis.

*References* are provided at the end of this presentation.

# Poll 1 - What is intersectionality?

# Share the Results – Poll 1 - What is intersectionality?

# Module Two

Intersectionality and additional considerations in working with young people.





# Learning outcomes

At the end of Module Two, participants will understand:

- Why an understanding of intersectionality is important in talking with young people.
- The differing lens that young people from some diverse backgrounds may have in relation to the virus.
- How to best support and respond appropriately to young people's diversity.

**Poll 2 - What examples have carers  
been aware of in relation to  
discrimination of young people that  
incorporate the notion of  
intersectionality?**

## Share the Results Poll 2

- What examples have carers been aware of in relation to discrimination of young people that incorporate the notion of intersectionality?

# Intersectionality

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01isIM0ytkE>

# What is intersectionality?

- Not all young people we support have the same characteristics. There will be differences in gender, gender identity, culture, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation and religion, for example.
- **Intersectional** theory asserts that people are often disadvantaged by multiple sources of oppression: their race, class, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and other identity markers.
- Intersectionality means having awareness that these characteristics often overlap.
- This means discrimination and disadvantage can be experienced at multiple levels. They can be experienced at a personal level and also at a structural or systemic level.

# Intersectionality

- Young people in general may face discrimination, less access to information and services and feel marginalised because of their age.
- Young people with specific characteristics may experience additional discrimination, reduced access to services, (including health services) and to information.
- They may include feeling powerless, oppressed, marginalised and discriminated against.
- They may be anxious and fearful about how they will be treated.

# Intersectionality

- Acknowledging intersectionality and how young people's experience of the world is shaped is important to provide the best support.

**Poll 3 - What specific concerns have you noticed, individually and collectively, from Aboriginal and TSI young people in your care?**



**Share the Results**

**Poll 3 - What specific concerns have you noticed, individually and collectively, from Aboriginal and TSI young people in your care?**

# Aboriginal young people

Young people from Aboriginal communities may have specific concerns about the virus.

[link](#)



# Young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds

Young people from CALD backgrounds may have concerns for family and community living in Australia and other countries.



# LGBTIQA+ young people

LGBTIQA+ young people may worry they will be discriminated against.



# Young people with a disability

- Access to therapeutic supports
- Understanding and dealing with government regulations
- Learning – access to home schooling supports



# Young people with mental health/AOD issues

Young people with mental health and/or AOD issues may worry they will be judged and misunderstood.



## Poll 4

What specific issues or concerns have arisen in caring for young people with AOD/mental health issues?

# Share the Results

## Poll 4

What specific issues or concerns have arisen in caring for young people with AOD/mental health issues?



# Harm minimisation

Harm reduction is a conceptual framework and set of practices that focus on the minimisation of the physical, social, and legal harms young people do to themselves and to society as a whole.



# Young people with mental health/AOD issues

- Practitioners working with young people using AOD should speak about the implications of scoring substances.
- The need to 'score' may override regulations in relation to social distancing. It may also put the young person and the seller at risk through inadvertent transmission of the virus.

# References

<https://www.dvrcv.org.au/sites/default/files/DVRCV%20Advocate%20-%20Intersectionality%20-inclusion%2C%20cohesion%20and%20continuity.pdf>

<https://www.yacvic.org.au/blog/covid-19-disabled-people/>

<https://www.orygen.org.au/About/Responding-to-the-COVID-19-outbreak>

<https://create.org.au/covid-19-update/>

# Thank you

Questions?