

## What is Cradle to Kinder?

The Cradle 2 Kinder program is a new intensive ante and post natal support service, providing long term family and early parenting support for a group of vulnerable young mothers, their partners and their children.

The Cradle 2 Kinder program will work with the family from pregnancy until the child reaches 4 years of age.

### Aims:

- To build the capacity of parents to support and promote their children's health, safety and development
- To promote the parents' own self reliance and resilience through access to education, vocational training and employment
- To increase the families connections to their culture and local community

## Target Group

The target group for the Cradle 2 Kinder service is young pregnant women, under 25 years:

- Where a report to Child Protection has been received for the unborn child as the referrer has significant concerns about the wellbeing of that child.

- Where there are a number of vulnerabilities or concerns about the wellbeing of the child when born and the mother is not involved with the Child Protection system.

Priority of access will be given to adolescent women, young woman who are or who have been in out-of-home care, Aboriginal women and women who have a learning difficulty.



## How does Cradle to Kinder Work?

Cradle 2 Kinder is jointly run in the Outer South by:

- Queen Elizabeth Centre
- VACCA – Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Association

Each client will have a key worker to provide a clear point of contact for the family.



A multidisciplinary team will provide range of services both home based and community settings, including case management support, advocacy, assessment, individual and group intervention.

Cradle to Kinder work closely with universal early childhood services as well as tertiary child and family services to achieve the best outcomes for families.

## *How do I make a referral?*

The Cradle 2 Kinder service is for pregnant young mothers residing in the Local Government Areas of Dandenong, Casey and Cardinia.

Referrals are accepted during pregnancy and up until the baby is 6 weeks of age.

Families are referred to the Cradle 2 Kinder program through Child FIRST and referrals will be accepted from a broad range of service providers.

Aboriginal families may be referred directly through a Koori service or through the Dandenong District Aboriginal Co-operative within this catchment area.

Child FIRST Outer South  
9705 3939

VACCA  
9706 6383

Dandenong & District Aborigines Co-operative Ltd  
9794 5933

For further information contact  
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# **cradle 2 Kinder**

*Cradle 2 Kinder  
is a program that  
will help young  
mums*

*get a great start  
on their journey  
with their baby.*

