

STATE BUDGET

2021-22

MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES HON MICHELLE LENSINK MLC MEDIA RELEASE

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New initiatives to support our most vulnerable South Australians

A youth justice diversion program, a nation-first safeguarding smart phone app and a program to deliver intensive family support to at-risk South Australians in their homes are among new initiatives to support our most vulnerable.

New funding in the State Budget 2021-22 includes:

- \$11.3 million over six years to establish the Resilient Families program, an intensive home-based family support intervention program that will be delivered by the Benevolent Society.
- \$500,000 to develop a new safeguarding app for people living with disability and their supporters.
- \$4.7 million over four years committed to ensure the Department of Human Services can continue to fund the Disability Access and Inclusion Directorate, established to further the Marshall Liberal Government's agenda for building greater access and inclusion for people living with disability.
- \$1.3 million over two years to help divert children who are at risk of being remanded into custody due to lack of accommodation and support services by connecting them with appropriate supports.
- \$1.3 million over two years for the development and licensing costs of three ICT projects to support the Marshall Government's new Child and Family Support System, in turn, ensuring better outcomes for our most vulnerable families.

Minister for Human Services Michelle Lensink said supporting at-risk South Australians remains a Marshall Liberal Government priority.

"We're determined to reduce the number of young people cycling in and out of the youth justice system," said Minister Lensink.

"Recognising that some young people are at greater risk of re-entering the youth justice system if they are incarcerated, we will be trialling a new child diversion program for 10-to-13 year olds.

"This adds to our substantial investment in youth justice, including \$18.7 million from last year's budget to consolidate Kurlana Tapa Youth Justice Centre, the banning of spit hoods and the trial of body-worn cameras.

"The Marshall Liberal Government is focused on continuing to support our most vulnerable families through a number of new programs, including our \$11.3 million investment to fund Resilient Families, aimed at intervening earlier and keeping families together, if safe to do so.

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“We’ve also committed \$500,000 to develop a new, nation-leading safeguarding app for people living with disability, enabling people to access wellbeing checks, emergency help and the right referrals in one easy-to-use platform.”

Minister Lensink said the Marshall Liberal Government continued to support at-risk women and their children.

“Tackling the insidious scourge of domestic, family and sexual violence remains a Marshall Liberal Government priority,” said Minister Lensink.

“We’re doing more than ever before to support and protect at-risk women and children and continue to fund the 24/7 DV Crisis Line, the successful Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, a life-saving personal protection app and 40 additional crisis beds for women and children, including a perpetrator trial.

“Thanks to more than \$9 million committed from the Federal Government last year, we’ve been able to fast-track new measures to support at-risk women and children in South Australia during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

New initiatives include state-first funding to the Men’s Referral Service and supports, funding a new Break the Cycle communications campaign, opening new safety hubs, funding support packages for at-risk women, among many other measures.