

# MacKillop Family Services

1997 –

URL: <https://www.mackillop.org.au/our-services/heritage>

## Details

---

MacKillop Family Services was established in 1997 to continue the services (foster care, residential care and specialised home-based care services) to children, young people and families previously undertaken by the Sisters of Mercy, the Christian Brothers, and the Sisters of St Joseph. It is a provider of services for children, young people and families in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia. MacKillop Family Services has a Heritage and Information Service and hold many records of former Children's Homes and Orphanages.

MacKillop Family Services' out-of-home care services provide support and accommodation to children and young people unable to live at home, through residential care, foster care and lead tenant programs. MacKillop Family Services' Community Programs support vulnerable and disadvantaged children, young people and their families through a range of programs and services including education, disability services, family and community services and family relationship services.

MacKillop Family Services' Refugee Services works in partnership with local community organisations to provide assistance and support to asylum seekers who are unaccompanied minors. In addition, MacKillop Family Services' homelessness services in New South Wales support young people who are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing, homelessness.

### Heritage and Information Service

MacKillop Family Services set up its Heritage and Information Service in 1997 to assist former residents and clients of its Victorian founding agencies to access personal information. MacKillop's Heritage and Information Service also provides advice and support about searching for records relating to any Catholic Home in Victoria.

MacKillop Family Services also holds records relating to institutions in New South Wales and Western Australia.

NOTE: Whilst MacKillop Family Services acts as custodian of all founding agency client files, the files remain the property of the respective congregations (that is, the Sisters of Mercy, the Christian Brothers, the Sisters of St Joseph). MacKillop Family Services is bound by the requirements of state and federal privacy laws and with any guidelines prescribed by the respective congregations.

MacKillop Family Services seeks to act within the recommended access standards of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Children from their Families (April 1997). Personal assistance is provided with the interpretation of written material.

MacKillop's Heritage and Information Service offers:

- searches for records and photographs
- supported access to records
- advice about where and how to search for records
- searches for and reunification with separated family members

- site visits to MacKillop's Heritage Display.

## More info

---

### Chronology

- St Vincent de Paul Child and Family Services (1992 - 1997)
- St Vincent de Paul Boys' Home (1967 - 1997)
- St Joseph's Babies' and Family Service (1985 - 1997)
- St Augustine's Adolescent and Family Services (1988 - 1997)
- Mercy Family Care Centre (c. 1975 - 1997)
- St Anthony's Family Service (1976 - 1997)
- Christian Brothers' Child Youth and Family Services (19 October 1995 - 1 July 1997)
  - **MacKillop Family Services (1997 – )**

### Related Entries

#### Ran

- [Eddy's Place \(1989 - 2017?\)](#)  
Date: 2009 -
- [Eddy's Out West \(1981? - current\)](#)  
Date: 2009 -
- [Family Group Homes run by St Vincent de Paul, Victoria \(c. 1960 - 2000s\)](#)
- [Family Group Homes run by the Sisters of Mercy in Geelong \(1972 - 2000s\)](#)
- [Family Group Homes and Residential Units run by the Sisters of St Joseph and the Christian Brothers, Victoria \(1960s - 2000s\)](#)

#### Related Organisations

- [Sisters of Mercy, Melbourne Congregation \(1857 - 2011\)](#)  
In 1997 MacKillop Family Services was formed to continue providing services to children, young people and families formerly run by the the Sisters of Mercy.  
Date: 1997 -
- [St Joseph's Cowper Incorporated \(1993 - 1 October 2017\)](#)  
St Joseph's Cowper Incorporated transferred its operations to MacKillop Family Services.
- [Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea \(12 December 2011 - current\)](#)
- [Edmund Rice Community Services \(2001? - current\)](#)  
Edmund Rice Community Services became a part of MacKillop Family Services.
- [St Patrick's Province \(Victoria and Tasmania\), Christian Brothers \(1967 - 2007\)](#)  
In 1997, the child and family services agencies run by the Christian Brothers in St Patrick's Province (Victoria and Tasmania) became part of MacKillop Family Services
- [St Joseph's Home for Children, Christian Brothers \(1991 - 1997\)](#)
- [Christian Brothers Oceania Province \(2007 - current\)](#)
- [Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart \(1866 - current\)](#)  
In 1997, MacKillop Family Services was formed to continue to provide services to children, young people and families formerly run by the the Sisters of St Joseph.
- [Cara Inc. \(1979 - 2016\)](#)

#### Holds

- [Records of Eddy's Place \(1989 - current\)](#)
- [St Joseph's Cowper Records \(1912 - 2017\)](#)
- [Records of Christian Brothers Children's Institutions in Western Australia \(1888 - 1983\)](#)
- [MacKillop Family Services Records, Victorian institutions \(1857 - current\)](#)

## Resources

- Twigg, Karen, [St Vincent de Paul Orphanage](#), eMelbourne: the city past and present, 2008
- Barnard, Jill, "[A Secure Safeguard of the Children's Morals": Catholic Child Welfare in Nineteenth-Century Victoria](#)", Provenance, September 2005
- MacKillop Family Services, [Submission no 50 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), July 2003
- Glare, Jenny, *Remembering our Heritage and Living with the Legacy: our ongoing commitment to Forgotten Australians*, Saint Mary MacKillop: Her influence on Catholic social services, Melbourne, 13-14 October 2011, October 2011
- [Heritage Display](#), MacKillop Family Services website, 2013
- O'Neill, Cate, [The importance of photos](#), Find & Connect web resource blog, 17 June 2015
- Gough, Deborah, [Hidden orphanage lives](#), The Age, 20 October 2004

## Other Resources

---

**Title:** 150 years of children in care in Victoria, 150 years of MacKillop Family Services  
**Type:** Image  
**Date:** c. 2006  
[Details](#)

---

---

You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/mackillop-family-services/>