

FACT SHEET



ABOUT US

We're a not-for-profit youth services organisation that supports young people aged 12–24 in New South Wales and Queensland.

We exist to provide young people experiencing disadvantage with safety, support and opportunities to build a positive future.

We receive income from government funding (at the local, state and federal levels), trusts and foundations, corporate partnerships, individual donations and bequests.

HOW WE HELP

We provide wraparound support across various services to help empower young people to overcome challenges and achieve stability, develop new skills and thrive.

We also work to address the specific needs and goals of individual young people. Our programs and services include:

- Homelessness and housing support
- Six independent high schools
- Case management and counselling
- Alcohol and Other Drugs Youth Service
- Youth justice programs
- Mental health support
- Life skills and personal growth programs
- Cultural support
- National Scholarship Program
- Vocational training and employment support
- Mentoring programs
- Street Walk outreach
- Food Van

OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERTISE

Since being founded by Father Chris Riley, Youth Off The Streets has grown from a single food van in Sydney to a major youth-specific agency.

We now work from a range of locations across New South Wales – from Greater Sydney and the Hunter region to Dubbo in the Far West – and Logan in Queensland.

We believe in the right of every young person to feel safe, access education and employment opportunities, achieve their goals and lead independent, fulfilling lives.

CASE STUDY #1: STREET WALK



The Street Walk program operates multiple nights a week, 52 weeks of the year. It provides vital support to vulnerable and homeless young people in and around Sydney's CBD and Inner West.

Street Walk is a trusted night-time presence for at-risk young people, offering assistance with essential groceries, transport and police matters.

The program also provides information and referrals to other support services, such as:

- Crisis accommodation
- Mental health support
- Drug and alcohol counselling
- Education programs

Street Walk is staffed by a full-time program manager and a team of volunteers. By clicking [here](#), you can learn how they supported a young domestic and family violence survivor named Jamie-Lee.

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CASE STUDY #2: KEY COLLEGE

Key College is an accredited, independent high school operated by Youth Off The Streets. The college is located in Redfern, NSW.

Key College caters to approximately 30 students, aged between 14 and 18, who have disengaged from mainstream education for a range of reasons including homelessness, family violence or mental health challenges. The school offers:

- Individual learning plans, which reflect each student's educational pathway and previous life experiences
- Student Support Youth Workers who offer practical guidance and emotional support
- Wellbeing initiatives e.g. psychology and counselling services
- Service learning opportunities, which strengthen students' connections with the community

Key College's approach to alternative education is flexible and strengths-based. It leverages young people's knowledge, skills, and potential to enhance their self-esteem and improve their situation.



CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIALS

Like us on Facebook ([@youthoffthestreetsaustralia](#)) or follow us on Instagram ([@youthoffthestreets](#)).

Here, you can learn more about us and stay up to date with our news, stories, events and impact.



CASE STUDY #3: ASPIRE



ASPIRE is an alternative learning program that supports First Nations young people. It is available to students who are enrolled in Years 9 to 12 at our alternative high schools.

ASPIRE is tailored to each student's needs, which could include transitional school support, further study and employment, or the exploration of cultural identity.

The program incorporates the 8 Aboriginal Ways of Learning Framework, which involves:

- Narrative-driven learning
- Visualised learning processes
- Hands on/reflective techniques
- Land-based learning
- Connectedness to community

You can find more information about our Cultural Support Services [here](#).

RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY AND FAMILY STUDIES

This resource has explicitly addressed the following Stage 6 syllabus dot points:

9.2 HSC core: Groups in Context

- Access to services – types of services, e.g. financial support, transport, accommodation and housing, healthcare, counselling, education, employment, legal aid
- Factors affecting access to services – aspects of the service, e.g. opening hours, confidentiality, location, staffing
- Addressing the groups' issues of concern – organisations within the community that support the group