



FaHCSIA Overview

FaHCSIA snapshot

FaHCSIA is a key source of strategic advice to the Australian Government on social policy and works in partnership with other government and non-government organisations to manage a diverse range of programs and services to improve the lives of Australians.

Every day, we help Australian families, people with disability, Indigenous people, seniors and people who require access to housing through a wide range of payments and services.

Why we are here

Our vision: A strong and fair society for all Australians.

Our mission: Supporting our ministers by collaboratively developing and implementing excellent social policy.

What we aim to do:

- increase social and economic participation
- improve social cohesion
- close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage
- support basic living standards
- support individuals, families and communities to build their capacity

We are focused on:

- families and children
- people who need housing support
- communities and people who are vulnerable
- senior Australians
- people with disability and carers in our community
- women
- Indigenous Australians

How we do it

- providing robust, evidence-based, innovative advice to government
- ensuring effective, considered and timely implementation of government decisions
- building and sustaining productive relationships with our partners to achieve outcomes
- effectively leading and working across governments

We are supported by:

- a capable, informed and adaptive workforce
- efficiently managed resources to address priorities
- strong governance and risk management



FaHCSIA Outcomes and Objectives

Outcome 1: Families and Children

Improved child development, safety and family functioning through support services for all Australians, payments for low and medium income families with children and child support policy.

Outcome 2: Housing

Access to affordable, safe housing through payments and support services, and rental subsidies to low and moderate income households.

Outcome 3: Community Capability and the Vulnerable

Improved capacity for vulnerable people and communities to participate economically and socially and to manage life-transitions through payments, targeted support services and community capability building initiatives.

Outcome 4: Seniors

An adequate standard of living and improved capacity to productively manage resources and life-transitions for senior Australians through the delivery of payments, concessions and information services.

Outcome 5: Disability and Carers

An adequate standard of living, improved capacity to participate economically and socially and manage life-transitions for people with disability and/or mental illness and carers through payments, concessions, support and care services.

Outcome 6: Women

Improved gender equality through coordinated whole-of-government advice and support for women's economic security, safety and status.

Outcome 7: Indigenous

Closing the gap in Indigenous disadvantage with improved wellbeing, capacity to participate economically and socially and to manage life-transitions for Indigenous Australians through Indigenous engagement, coordinated whole-of-government policy advice and targeted support services.



Our Organisation

FaHCSIA delivers a diverse range of social policies and programs. In terms of both people and places, our reach is wide, extending to the most remote parts of Australia and, in the course of their lives, to most Australians.

FaHCSIA has an Administered Budget of \$90.1 billion, of which \$84.6 billion is distributed in payments to individuals and families, \$1.6 billion is distributed in payments to community organisations (predominantly grants), and \$3.9 billion is distributed in payments to the state and territory governments.

In addition to the Administered Budget, FaHCSIA has a Departmental operating budget of \$707.7 million which includes \$142.8 million of funding for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Launch Transition Agency (\$564.9 million exclusive of the agency).

Our 2,894 staff (including contractors) work in urban, regional and remote locations across the country. We exhibit our commitment to diversity in our staffing and workplace practices. The Department strives to be a leader in the employment of people with disability and Indigenous Australians. On 31 July 2013, there were 10.47 per cent Indigenous staff and 4.7 per cent staff with disability. We have a strong gender balance at all levels of the organisation.

Our staff support our Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries by collaboratively developing and implementing policies, programs and partnerships to increase social and economic participation, improve social cohesion, support basic living standards and support individuals, families and communities to build their capacity.

Through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) reforms, FaHCSIA has the lead policy advisory role for national agreements on disability, affordable housing and Indigenous reform.

FaHCSIA also has primary responsibility for supporting the policy and reform directions for several of COAG's national partnerships, including those on social housing, homelessness, remote Indigenous housing and remote service delivery.