

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 25

Topic: Grandparent Peer Support Groups

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Xenophon asked:

How will these groups be structured? Will there be a qualified counsellor or other professional leading the group? Will this person be employed by the department? Will there be a limit on the number of members for each group?

Answer:

The grandparent peer support group model is based on the successful *MyTime Peer Support Groups for Parents and Carers of Children with Disability or Chronic Medical Condition* program. Each peer support group will consist of two workers – a Facilitator for the grandparent carers and a Play Helper for children attending with their grandparent(s) and each group will cater for up to 12 families.

Facilitators are expected to have relevant qualifications and/or experience in parenting and family support. The Play Helpers are expected to have qualifications and/or experience in caring for children.

The Facilitator and Play Helper may be employed by the National Coordinator or by a organisation subcontracted to deliver the peer support groups.