

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(181) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley asked:

The government agreed to fund early intervention strategies that recognises and support young migrants and humanitarian entrants at risk of not making a successful settlement transition. (P125 DIMIA annual report, *Appendix 2*)

- How is this intervention strategy been set up?
- How much funding is allocated to this project?

Answer:

In the 2004-05 Budget, the Government committed \$8.1m over four years to create the Newly Arrived Youth Support Services (NAYSS) program to assist migrant and humanitarian entrant youth. The NAYSS program seeks to ensure that the Job Placement, Employment and Training (JPET) and Reconnect services are accessible to migrant and humanitarian entrant youth and are delivered from the one multi-function outlet.

Responsibility for NAYSS rests jointly with the Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS) and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), with FaCS as the lead agency.

DIMIA is working with FaCS and DEWR to identify locations where there are high levels of settlement by young newly-arrived migrants and humanitarian entrants. Six NAYSS service centres opened recently, and a selection process for another seven centres is underway.

Through FaCS, the Government further agreed to commit \$5.2m in the 2004-05 Budget to target additional family support services to humanitarian entrant families. Community organisations will be engaged to deliver culturally appropriate family relationship support and information to humanitarian entrants and their families through the Family Relationships Services to Humanitarian Entrants Program. FaCS selected six service providers through a tender process. The program was launched by the Minister for Family and Community Services in October 2005.

The Government also announced \$36.8m over four years in the 2004-05 Budget for additional hours of English language tuition under the Special Preparatory Program for Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) clients. The AMEP is administered by DIMIA.