



**Submission to the Inquiry into the Disclosure Regimes for Charities and  
Not-for-Profit Organisations**

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**MacKillop Family Services**

**August 2008**

MacKillop Family Services  
22 Pin Oak Crescent  
Flemington Victoria 3031  
(03) 9381 6964

MacKillop Family Services was formed in 1997 with the refounding of seven Victorian child welfare agencies of the Sisters of Mercy, Christian Brothers and Sisters of St Joseph.

We are one of the largest Victorian providers of specialist support services to vulnerable and disadvantaged children, young people and their families through five core areas of service:

- Supporting Families experiencing disadvantage and crisis;
- Supporting Families raising a child with a disability;
- Education and training services for children and young people;
- Services for children and young people who are not able to live at home; and
- Services for the former residents of our founding agencies.

Over 90 services are provided through 11 programs in these five service areas. Our work is carried out across metropolitan Melbourne and Geelong.

## **1. Introduction**

The nonprofit sector that is the subject of this Inquiry is sometimes referred to as the Third Sector, in recognition of the integral role it plays in the nation's economic, social and cultural life. Nonprofit organisations provide support and services for individuals and families, protect and restore the environment and built heritage, provide sporting, recreational and cultural opportunities; advocate on issues of concern; and provide a means for individuals to come together on a local level.

This role and contribution can be quantitatively measured, for example:

- There are estimated to be up to 700,000 nonprofit organizations in Australia, most of which are small and entirely dependent on the voluntary commitment of members.
- In 1999/2000 nonprofit organisations employed 604,000 people (6.8% Australians in employment), had an income of \$33.5 billion and contributed \$21 billion, or 3.3% to GDP (National Roundtable of Nonprofit Organisations The Nonprofit Sector in Australia: A Fact Sheet [www.nonprofitroundtable.org.au](http://www.nonprofitroundtable.org.au))
- 50 per cent of expenditure on community services in Australia, such as aged care and children's services, is delivered through community organizations ABS 2001, *Community Services, 1999-2000* cat.no.8696.0, ABS Canberra
- Its reach is also extensive, in 2003 13 million Australians (86% adults) belonged to at least one nonprofit organisation; 48% belonged to at least three organisations. (National Roundtable of Nonprofit Organisations The Nonprofit Sector in Australia: A Fact Sheet [www.nonprofitroundtable.org.au](http://www.nonprofitroundtable.org.au))

It is however increasingly being recognised that it not just the services and activities that nonprofit organisations provide that make them important, it is also the way they go about their work.

*“Quite recently, governments have begun to recognise the role of community organisations in building social networks and community connections that encourage civic participation and bring about highly desirable, long-term effects on health and well-being. At a time when governments are seeking to maximize their investment in human capital and increase economic and civic participation, community organisations play a crucial role.”* Stronger Community Organisations Project Report of the Steering Committee October 2007 p.10 Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development Melbourne

The defining characteristic and strength of the nonprofit sector lies in its diversity: from local clubs and neighbourhood associations to social enterprises, major service providers and global advocacy organisations. Herein also lies the profound challenge for governments, how to develop and engage the sector without compromising both diversity and the community strengthening processes which underpin community organizations.

*“The diversity, genesis and pervasiveness of community organisations do not encourage detailed prescriptions or blueprints. Governments should recognise, facilitate and, as necessary, regulate – not attempt to predict or unduly constrain community organisations”* Stronger Community Organisations Project Report of the Steering Committee October 2007 p 11 Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development Melbourne

## **2. The context of nonprofit regulatory reform**

Regulation reform is one of the key elements of the agreed agenda of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG). This is in recognition that ‘red tape’ adversely impacts on business productivity and compromises return on investment. The Victorian Government has included nonprofit organisations in its *Reducing the Regulatory Burden Initiative* in recognition that nonprofits are also important to the State’s economy and community and need to be freed to expend more resources on their core objectives. This is a model worthy of Commonwealth Government consideration.

The strong lobbying by the nonprofit sector of the Victorian Government for regulatory reform, and then participation in the Review process, belies the assumptions of some commentaries on the nonprofit sector. It is promoted by some that lack of transparency is deliberate and that the sector is resistant to reform. Instead the sector’s strong message to the recent Victorian Government State Services Review of Not-for-Profit Regulation was to highlight the increasing burden of uncoordinated regulation, data collection and accountability requirements and to demand reform.

### **2.1 MacKillop Family Services: a regulatory case study**

Attached to this submission is **an incomplete** list of the range of legislation, guidelines, quality assurance, data collection and reporting requirements to which MacKillop Family

Services is subject. We take our governance responsibilities and accountability requirements very seriously and have developed structures and expertise to ensure that we are able to meet obligations to all our stakeholders. We see the increased rigour required of the sector in recent years as a positive development. However it is important for the Inquiry to understand the complex regulatory environment in which many community organisations operate. As a consequence, more of our management resources are diverted away from the core business of direct service, to respond to the vast array of external monitoring and reporting requirements.

As demonstration of MacKillop Family Services commitment to public accountability and transparency, we recently adopted four key strategies that will contribute to our performance in these areas over the next 18 months:

- The establishment of a Quality and Service Development Team to lead the development and implementation of an outcome oriented approach to the design, delivery and evaluation of MacKillop's services.
- Benchmarking with other nonprofits 'back of house' and high level operational costs.
- Adoption of alternate reporting to demonstrate not only financial and service viability but also the capacity to deliver public services and public value.
- Improvement of Board and management KPI reporting.

### **3. Recommendations**

#### 3.1 National Taskforce on Nonprofit Regulatory Reform

The complexity of the regulatory environment in which MacKillop Family Services operates is magnified across the nonprofit sector. As a larger organization we benefit from the compliance skill and experience of professional staff yet know that the vast majority of nonprofits rely on the capacity of volunteers.

For government, regulatory complexity and the resulting lack of co-ordinated data about the sector and its operations, means there is no knowledge on which to base policy. The absence of a single reliable regulator also means that government program managers have to gather data themselves and organisations have to inefficiently repeatedly provide basic data about their organisation and operations.

This Inquiry is the first time there has been a national inquiry into the regulatory framework that governs the whole nonprofit sector (The Industry Commission 1995 and Inquiry into the Definition of Charities and Related Organisations 2001 examined parts of the sector). It is most welcome but more time and resources will be required if the issues are to be well understood and an effective and efficient new regulatory framework developed.

Australia has fallen behind globally converging regulatory standards for nonprofit organizations. Failure to act upon the recommendations of the 1995 and 2001 Inquiries

has compounded regulatory complexity and international uncompetitiveness. **This leads us to recommend the establishment of a national taskforce, established in partnership with the nonprofit sector, with the greenfield task of considering the best national regulatory framework for the nonprofit sector.** ‘What is the minimum necessary regulation?’ should be their guidestar.

Such a taskforce would provide an opportunity to closely examine and evaluate the regulatory models and reforms of other countries. This would allow Australia not only to emulate international best practice but also to ensure that its regulatory regimes are internationally competitive and do not discourage international nonprofit activity. For example, Australia was once used as the base for philanthropic foundations interested in working in Asia. Since the Singapore Government developed an encouraging regulatory environment, Singapore has replaced Australia as the Asian hub and base for international philanthropic foundations. The current confusing and ineffective regulatory framework also puts Australian organisations at a competitive disadvantage in the global market for philanthropic funds.

### 3.2 Purpose-Built Legislation and Regulator

A greenfield brief would give a national taskforce an opportunity to develop a single purpose-built piece of legislation and a national regulator.

The goals of such purpose-built legislation would be:

- To create a regulatory environment that encourages nonprofit organizing and the nonprofit contribution to the nation’s social, economic and cultural life.
- To ensure transparency to the public about organisations’ purpose and activities and its use of public funds, both government and donor.
- To provide a guide to Directors on their duties and responsibilities (recognising that governance bodies should be the central focus for ensuring the appropriate behaviour of organisations)
- To propose regulation commensurate with the level of risk (for example organisations with employees, government contracts, a certain level of capital and income should have more rigorous compliance and reporting requirements; others below such benchmarks may not be required to report.)
- To allow organisations required to report to make an electronically filed annual return to the national regulator. Such returns would offer a source of basic narrative and financial data about each organisation that could be made available on a searchable website.

The establishment of a national regulator will require a well resourced agency. At present private donors, government funders, and the media on behalf of the general public all call for greater reported detail on nonprofit organisational accounts and activities. However at the same time they express a strong desire for less expense on administration and fundraising and do not wish any of their contributions to go towards such expenses. Such measures are not costless for either organisations or governments.

However the opportunity costs of stifling nonprofit organising and the cost of compliance with the current regulatory complexity should be viewed as offsets to the cost of effective reform.

### 3.3 Standard Chart of Accounts and/or Accounting Standards

Transparency and comparability of financial information from nonprofit organisations would be achieved by the development of a standard chart of accounts and/or accounting standards designed specifically for nonprofits.

This has been the conclusion of a number of government reviews.

- In 1995 the Industry Commission recommended that the Commonwealth Government should provide funds to the Australian Accounting Standards Board and Public Sector Accounting Standards Board to develop within two years suitable accounting standards for Community Service and Welfare Organisations. The Industry Commission noted that “the development of specific accounting standards for the sector would improve accountability of CSWOs. It would help donors and the public generally to compare the performance of CSWOs; governments to assess the effectiveness of CSWOs in providing the services for which they are funded; and CSWOs to minimize the costs of accounting and reporting.” Industry Commission 1995 *Charity organisations in Australia*, Industry Commission, Melbourne, pxiii
- The 2007 Victorian State Services Authority Review of Not-for-Profit Regulation noted the benefits of a standard chart of accounts designed for nonprofits as: better targeted accounting standards; appropriate definitions; clarity regarding treatment of accounts; and improved quality and comparability of NFP financial data.

Preliminary analysis conducted for the Review by the Allen Consulting Group estimated that potential savings to Victorian nonprofit organisations from the development of NFP accounting standards could be in the order of \$5.58 million.

### 3.4 Australian Bureau of Statistics funding

In comparison to the business and government sectors there is a dearth of data and collected knowledge about the Third Sector. The ABS should receive long term funding to compile and update baseline data on the whole of the nonprofit sector. This would improve recognition of the contribution of the sector, government policy-making and the sector’s own planning.

## **4. Conclusion**

MacKillop Family Services welcomes this first national inquiry into the regulation of the nonprofit sector as an opportunity to highlight the need for a comprehensive review of nonprofit regulation with the dual aims of:

- Creating a regulatory environment that encourages nonprofit organising and the nonprofit contribution to the nation's social, economic and cultural life; and
- Ensuring transparency to the public about nonprofit organisations' purpose and activities and their use of public funds, both government and donor.

This comprehensive review should be the task of a national taskforce, formed in partnership with the nonprofit sector, with the objective of developing a single purpose-built piece of legislation and a national regulator.

Public knowledge about the sector and its operations would be greatly assisted by the development of a standard chart of accounts and/or accounting standards designed for nonprofit organisations; and funding the Australian Bureau of Statistics to compile and update data on the sector.

## MacKillop Family Services

### COMPLIANCE REPORTING

#### 1. Service Delivery

	<b>Compliance Requirements</b>
<b>Substitute Care</b>	<p>Children, Youth and Young Families Act 2006</p> <p><u><a href="#">Adolescent Community Placement – Principles and Program Framework, September 1991</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Permanent Care Order Guidelines 1993</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Adolescent Support Program Document, 1993</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Capital Development Guideline 7.7 Fire Risk Management in Community-Based Houses, Sep 2001</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Departmental Instructions relating to Community Services, September 1991 (D1/91/7)</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Children In Residential Care 1998 Program Guidelines</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">High Risk Adolescent Quality Improvement Initiative - Service Specifications, December 1997</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Mental Health Act 1986</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Aboriginal Child Placement Principle November 2000</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Adolescent Support Program Document, April 2001</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Minimum Standards and Outcome Objectives for Residential Care Services in Victoria, 2002</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Protecting Children Volumes 1</a></u> May 1994  <u><a href="#">Protecting Children Volume 2</a></u>            Protecting Children Volume 3 - <u><a href="#">Part 1</a></u>            Protecting Children Volume 3 - <u><a href="#">Part 2</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Protection and Placement Output: Definitions for Performance Measures 2002</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Voluntary Placements Handbook July 1993</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Baseline Standards for Out of Home Care, December 1995</a></u></p> <p>Working With Children Regulations 2006</p>



	<b>Compliance Requirements</b>
	<p><a href="#">Minimum Standards and Outcome Objectives for Residential Care Services in Victoria, 2002</a></p> <p>Counting Rules for Child Protection &amp; Placement Output Group Performance Measures</p> <p><a href="#">DHS Management Response to Inhalant Use, February 2003</a></p> <p><a href="#">Flexipack Guidelines, November 1995</a></p> <p><a href="#">Funding Arrangements for Placement &amp; Support Service Providers, Community Care Division 2001</a></p> <p>The Home-Based Care Handbook November 2003</p> <p><a href="#">Practice Standards in Foster Care 1984</a></p> <p><a href="#">Procedural Guidelines Shared Family Care, Placement and Support Grant Funding</a></p> <p><a href="#">Protection and Placement Output: Definitions for Performance Measures 2002</a></p> <p><a href="#">Residential Care Services - Substance Abuse Guidelines, February 2003</a></p> <p>Wrongs Act 1958</p> <p>Wrongs and Other Acts (Law of Negligence) Act December 2003</p>
<b>Funding agreements and instructions</b>	<p>Community Services Act 1970</p> <p><a href="#">Departmental Instructions relating to Community Services, September 1991</a></p> <p><a href="#">Funding Arrangements for Placement &amp; Support Service Providers, Community Care Division 2001</a></p> <p>Service agreement information kit for agencies 2003-06</p> <p>Community Care Policy and Funding Plan 2003-2006</p>
<b>Adoption</b>	<p><a href="#">Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946</a></p> <p><a href="#">Adoption Act 1984</a></p> <p><a href="#">Adoption Standards 1986</a></p> <p><a href="#">National Principles in Adoption 1997</a></p> <p><a href="#">Adoption Regulations 1998</a></p> <p><a href="#">Adoption and Permanent Care Procedures Manual 2000</a></p> <p>Adoption (Amendment) Regulations 2002</p>
<b>Disability Services</b>	<p>Disability Act 2006</p> <p>Victorian Intellectually Disabled Persons' Services Act 1986</p> <p>Disability Services Standards</p>

	<b>Compliance Requirements</b>
<b>Family Support Services</b>	<p>Service agreement information kit for agencies 2003-06</p> <p>Community Care Policy and Funding Plan 2003-2006</p> <p><a href="#">Family Services Program: Service Standards and Quality Improvement Program, August 1996</a></p> <p><a href="#">Guidelines for Completion of Strengthening Parent Support Program Data 2001/2002</a></p> <p><a href="#">Protocol Between Protective Services and Families First, 1993</a></p>
<b>Education Services</b>	<p>Education Act 1958</p> <p>Education Regulations 2000</p> <p>Transport Accident Act 1986</p> <p><a href="#">School Focussed Youth Services Program Guidelines 2003</a></p> <p>Psychologists Registration Regulations 2001</p> <p>Registered Schools Board Regulations 1996</p>

## 2. Human Resources

	<b>Compliance Requirements</b>
<b>HR reporting</b>	Workplace Relations Act 1996
<b>Industrial Relations</b>	
<b>EEO</b>	<p>Equal Opportunity Act 1995 for prevention of harassment and discrimination</p> <p>Racial and Religious Tolerance Act (2001)</p> <p>Racial Discrimination Act (1975)</p> <p>Sex Discrimination Act (1984)</p> <p>Disability Discrimination Act (1992)</p>
<b>Disputes and grievances</b>	Compliance with Dispute and Grievance Settling procedures set out in Workplace Agreement
<b>OHS</b>	<p>Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985</p> <p><a href="#">Victorian Codes of Practice: Noise (1992)</a></p>

	<b>Compliance Requirements</b>
	Provision of OHS Information in Languages other than English (1992) Plant (1995) First Aid in the Workplace (1995) Plant (Amendment No.1) (1998) Workplaces (1998) Manual Handling (2000) Hazardous Substances (2000) Dangerous Goods Storage & Handling (2000) Prevention of Falls (2004)  <u>Regulations:</u> OHS (Noise) 1995 OHS (Plant) 1995 Equipment (Public Safety)(General) (1995) OHS (Confined Spaces) 1996 OHS (Incident Notification) 1997 OHS (Issue Resolution) 1999 OHS (Manual Handling) 1999 Dangerous Goods (Storage & Handling) (1999) OHS (Hazardous Substances) 1999 OHS (Lead) 2000 OHS (Asbestos) 2003 OHS (Prevention of Falls) 2003
<b>Workers compensation</b>	Accident Compensation Act 1985
<b>Information privacy</b>	Information Privacy Act 2000 (Victoria);  Health Records Act 2001 (Victoria); and  Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000 (National).
<b>Whistleblowers protection</b>	Encouragement and facilitation of disclosures, protection of whistleblowers and establishment of a system for investigations under the Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001

### 3. Finance and Taxation

	<b>Compliance requirements</b>
<b>Annual Reporting – Financial Statements</b>	Corporations Act 2001  Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001  Other mandatory professional reporting requirements  Lodge Financial Statements with ASIC within 4 months of end of financial year

<b>Financial and operating delegations</b>	Delegations policy
<b>Tax compliance</b>	GST Tax Laws FBT Laws (relating to PBI organisations)

#### 4. Other Governance Issues

	<b>Compliance requirements</b>
<b>Freedom of Information</b>	Compliance with Freedom of Information Act 1982
<b>Insurance</b>	DHS Non-government insurance guidelines
<b>Information technology</b>	Compliance with software licence requirements
<b>Fire Safety</b>	Building Regulations 1994 – Section 11 (form 15)  <a href="#">Capital Development Guideline 7.7 Fire Risk Management in Community-Based Houses, Sep 2001</a>  <a href="#">Fire Risk Management Standard 2002 Departmental Instructions relating to Community Services, September 1991 (D1/91/7)</a> <a href="#">Fire Risk Management Standard 2002</a>  <a href="#">Lead Tenant/Home Based Care Services Fire Safety Standard, March 2000</a>  <a href="#">DHS Fire Risk Management Standard, March 2000</a>
<b>Building regulations</b>	Compliance with Building Act 1993  Building Regulations 1994 – Section 11 (form 15)

#### **Victorian Acts & Regulations**

Fundraising Appeals Regulations 1999  
 Gambling Regulation Regulations 2005  
 Liquor Control Reform Act 1998  
 Building Regulations - 2006  
 Business Names Regulations 2003  
 Consumer Credit (Victoria) (Administration) Regulations 2006

#### *HUMAN RESOURCES*

Accident Compensation Regulations 1990

Accident Compensation Regulations 2001  
Emergency Management Regulations 2003  
Working With Children Regulations 2006  
Drugs Poisons and Controlled Substances (Volatile Substances) Regulations 2004

*PLACEMENT & SUPPORT*

DHS Management Response to Inhalant Use, February 2003  
DHS Practice Bulletin 2004/02  
DHS Practice Instruction "Sharing information in out-of home care" - Home based care handbook  
High Risk Adolescent Quality Improvement Initiative - Service Specifications, December 1997  
Interagency Protocol between Victoria Police and nominated agencies 2004  
Office of Housing, 1999, 'Housing Standards Policy Manual'  
Procedural Guidelines Shared Family Care, Placement and Support Grant Funding  
Protection and Placement Output: Definitions for Performance Measures 2002  
QAS for OofHC  
Residential Care Services - Substance Abuse Guidelines, February 2002  
The Home-Based Care Handbook November 2003  
Voluntary Placements Handbook July 1993

***Disability***

DHS Disability Service Standards  
DHS Disability Services Policy and Funding Plan 2003-2006  
Family Options Procedures Manual  
Flexible Packages Case Management Manual  
Funding  
Great Break and Holiday Respite Regional Guidelines  
Looking After Children (LAC) Framework / Assessment of Action and records  
Looking After Children (LAC) Framework / Care and Placement Plan  
Looking After Children (LAC) Framework / Essential Information Record  
Looking After Children (LAC) Framework / Review of Care and Placement Plan  
Making a Difference Procedures Manual  
Quarterly Data Collection  
RAPT Procedures Manual  
Special Support Unit Orientation Manual

***DHS Disability Policy***

Client Expenditure (CERS)  
Fire Policy  
Health Care  
Locked Doors and Windows  
Menstrual Management  
Moving Interstate  
Policy and Funding Plan  
Privacy  
Respite  
Restraint & Seclusion policy  
Victorian Standards for Disability Services

***DHS Disability Guidelines***

ABI Assisted Community Living  
Access to Disability Services Programs  
Accommodation Staff Handbook  
Accommodation Standards and Design Guidelines  
Aids and Equipment guidelines  
Chronic Illness Case management  
Community Visitors Handbook  
Duty of Care  
Dyshpasia Interim Guidelines

Early Choices  
Emergency Crisis Accommodation  
Entry, Exit & relocation  
Family Choice Program  
Fire Safety Evacuation  
Flexible Support Packages  
Forensic Service Policy  
HIV positive guidelines  
Home First guidelines  
Human Relations & Sexuality  
Inclusive Consultation for people with disability  
Individual Program Planning  
Insurance Guidelines  
Metro Access Guidelines  
Motor Vehicles  
Neuropsychological Assessments  
Pricing Principles  
Protection against Infection  
QDC Consent list  
QDC Guidelines  
Tube Feeding

***DHS Disability Practice Instructions***

Behaviour Intervention Support  
Family Options Policies and Procedures  
Food Safety  
Home First Business Rules  
Incident Reporting  
Responding to Allegations of Abuse  
Restraint & Seclusion Joint Practice Instruction

***DHS Disability Protocols***

Acquired Brain Injury and Mental Illness  
Disability Services Cultural & Linguistic Strategy  
Family Intervention Support Services  
Corrections, Justice & Disability Services  
Disability & Juvenile Justice  
Protective Services & Intellectual Disability  
Intellectual Disability & Psychiatric Services  
Police

***Department of Education & Training directives***

Census Data  
Assessment and reporting  
Curriculum & Standards  
Human Resources  
Initiatives & Programs  
ICT in Schools  
Professional Development  
Key Learning Areas  
Student Welfare  
Bullying  
Transport  
Wellbeing  
Traffic Safety Education  
Admin procedure and Forms  
Emergency & Security Management  
Evaluation & Audit

Facilities  
Tax  
Regional Programs  
Safety in Schools  
Standards & Accountability

***Associations***

Adult, Community & Further Education  
Merit Protection Boards  
Victorian Curriculum & Assessment Authority  
Victorian Institute of Teaching  
Victorian Learning & Employment Skills Commission  
Victorian Qualifications Authority

***Catholic Education Commission***

Superannuation: Employees in Catholic Education  
Participation of Women in Catholic Education VIC  
Education about AIDS and Care of AIDS sufferers  
Accreditation to teach in a Catholic School  
Accreditation to teach Religious Education in a Catholic School  
Hepatitis B Policy  
Confidentiality  
Affirmative Action  
Pastoral Care  
Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting  
Curriculum Dev P-12  
Curriculum Assessment P-12  
Reporting student outcomes  
Commercial Sponsorship Arrangements  
LOTE  
Email and Internet use by staff  
Criminal Records Check  
Pathways and Transition in Post Compulsory Years  
Privacy  
Excursions

***Catholic Education Office***

Educating for Peace  
Employment of Staff  
Personal Files for Catholic Employees  
Enrolment Policy  
Christian Education for Personal Development  
HIV / AIDS Education  
Access to Records  
Research Access  
Enrolment of students under minimum age  
Drug Issues in Catholic Schools  
School Fees in primary schools  
Sexual Harassment Policy  
Enrolment of Year 7 students  
Professional Development of Staff  
Mandatory reporting of Abuse  
Procedures for the management of allegations against lay staff  
Privacy Policy in Catholic Schools  
Leadership: Role of RE Co-ordinator

***Registered Schools Board***

Annual Return  
Requirements for registration  
Conditions for registration

Special Category registration  
Procedure for registration of new schools  
Refusal to grant registration to a school  
Procedures for continuing registration of Existing Schools  
Review of registered schools  
Closure of a school or section of a school  
Cancellation of registration  
Registration - Resources

***Family & Community Services Service Agreement***

***DHS - Service Agreement***

***Community Care Funding Plan***

***Service Standards***

Family Services Program - Service Standards and Quality Framework - August 1996  
HACC Standards  
Disability Standards

***Parent Support***

Guidelines for program data - 2001/2002

***Protocols***

Protocol Between Protective Services & Families First

***Research & Advocacy***

NHRMC - Guidelines approved under Section 95A of the Privacy Act 1988 - December 2001

***Privacy***

Case Recording: Policy Advice and Practice Guidelines for Protective Workers (February 1997)  
Child Protection & Care Practice Instruction 2003/01 Physical security of client files  
Child Protection & Care Practice Instruction 2003/03 Placement referral process  
Department of Human Services Interim Privacy Policy Guideline: Use and disclosure for primary and related purposes  
Department of Human Services Privacy Policy  
Department of Human Services Privacy Policy Making Privacy Work  
MFS - An Introduction to Privacy - Complying with Legislation  
Sharing information in out of home care 2003/10 - Child protection and care practice instruction

***Fire Safety***

Fire Risk Management Standard 2002  
Departmental Instructions relating to Community Services, September 1991 (D1/91/7)  
Lead Tenant/Home Based Care Services Fire Safety Standard, March 2000  
DHS Fire Risk Management Standard, March 2000

AS 3806-2006: Compliance Standards  
AS/NZS 4360 - 2004: Risk Management  
AS/NZS 4360 - 2004: Risk Management Guidelines

Manual Handling (code of Practice No. 25, 2000)  
Plant (Code of Practice No. 19, 1995)  
Plant (Amendment no.1 to Code of Practice No. 19, 1995) (1998)  
Hazardous Substances (Code of Practice No. 24, 2000)  
Workplaces (Code of Practice No. 3, 1988)  
Dangerous Goods Storage & Handling (Code of Practice no. 27, 2000)  
Provision of Occupational Health and Safety Information in Languages Other than English (Code of Practice No.16, 1992)