

Care Leavers

Strategies to consider include:

- Providing a service that can assist Care Leavers to feel safe, regardless of whether they choose to disclose their history
- Conducting training for staff to enhance understanding of the range of issues affecting Care Leavers
- Communicating a message of welcome to Care leavers by including information and resources for consumers and staff, referring to Care leavers in information about the services
- Checking how consumers would like information about their history recorded, and informing the consumer how the information is used, how it is stored and who may access it, and seeking consent before sharing this information with another organisation
- Understanding fear of authority and being aware of power issues
- Involving Forgotten Australians and their families in the design of programs aimed at assisting them will show respect, reassure and not re-victimise them.
- Identify the survivor's strengths
- Being aware of gender issues, in working effectively with a Forgotten Australians
- Be aware of fear of physical contact
- Be aware of fear of institutionalisation
- Offer group work. Group work can assist some survivors to combat isolation and the feeling that their own truth is too painful and shameful to reveal. Others, of course, prefer one-to-one interaction with a person they trust

Partnerships and relationships to consider:

- Developing links with local peak bodies such as Alliance for Forgotten Australians, Open Place and Connecting homes

This document is created by Lisa Tribuzio, Diversity Advisor from the North Metro Sector Development team. For more information contact: lisat@hwpcp.org.au, 0417 372 031