

Reconnect evaluation 2016 :

The importance of early intervention

Mission Australia conducted an outcomes evaluation across Reconnect sites from March to October 2016.

The evaluation considered a range of measures mapped to the outcomes that Reconnect aims to achieve. Overall, improvements were found in clients' wellbeing, sense of control and support, housing permanency, family cohesion and financial resources in the family.

After two-four months service delivery:

Client's personal wellbeing improved



Clients indicating that they did not have support in a time of crisis reduced



Permanency of housing improved



Levels of family cohesion improved considerably

family's ability to get along is 'poor'



Reported levels of financial resources in the family appear to have stabilised

family has 'mostly' enough money to meet their needs



family's ability to get along is 'very good'



"What I find really beneficial is that they sort of have their finger on the pulse and they have access to other services and are able to refer young people and their families if they feel like they need further support in other areas. So they do that as well as case management. It's that wrap around support for young people who don't have very strong family connections"

– School Counsellor, Regional