

Centre for Excellence
in Child and Family Welfare Inc.

What is a RESI CENSUS?

The Centre for Excellence and Child and Family Welfare and the Residential Care Learning and Development Strategy (RCLDS) are undertaking a census of the residential care workforce. The aim of this census is to provide support and information to the sector and to assist in the development of strategies to report, improve and build on quality services to children in care through a skilled workforce.

Who should participate in RESI CENSUS week?

This census applies to community service organisations (CSO's) who provide residential care services for the Department of Human Services Child Protection.

What information are we looking for?

The work force information required only relates to those staff providing direct care to children living in residential units.

For all but one question (Q21), this census applies to permanent residential care workers and does not include case workers or other specialist workers such as therapeutic specialists, drug and alcohol workers or education support staff etc. Question 21 is the only question which refers to case workers or specialist workers.

Why participate in the Census?

The participation of your organisation in this census is very important.

This census will be completed by all organisations providing residential care in Victoria with in the same week - the "Census Week".

This census will help us to accurately describe the current achievements of the RCLDS goals and will provide a knowledge base from which to define strategies for the recognition of current skills in the workforce and strategies for achieving an appropriately trained, skilled and knowledgeable workforce across the sector.

Each participating organisation will receive a full report of the findings of the census and the opportunity to participate in the discussions and advocacy strategies that will result from it.

Dates of the Census

Census week will be the week of the 20th to the 24th of February 2012.

How will Confidentiality and Anonymity be assured?

All data will be de-identified and anonymous and will be confidential to the Research team at the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare. The research team is bound to the strictest professional levels of integrity, confidentiality and ethical research practice.

Reported outcomes will only contain collated and aggregated data and will be provided to the RCLDS Reference Group to inform their decision making. The reported aggregate outcomes might be included in published reports or presentations by the Centre for Excellence on recommendation from the RCLDS group and Centre Board.

Aggregate reports will be provided to participating organisations. A report to any specific participating organisation can include data relevant to that specific individual organisation for comparative purposes but only by specific request of the participating organisation. The individual data for an organisation will not, under any circumstances, be provided to other participating organisation

Who should complete the Census?

The Census is designed to be completed by a Human Resources or Managerial level staff member who has access to information about all the staff employed by the organisation. The census requires data from each region in which your service provides residential care.

We ask that you provide the information as accurately as possible. We appreciate that some of the information needed to complete this survey may require you to look up personnel files and greatly appreciate your time and commitment to this important undertaking.

How many Census forms should be completed by my Organisation?

Please complete one Census form ***for each DHS region in which your organisation provides residential care services.***

This might mean that a different person completes the form for each different region. However we would request that only one person completes each Census form for each region.

When should the form be completed?

Please select one day within the week of Census Week and complete the form providing the information as it stands on that particular day. Some workforce information is historical and the data period is from January to December 2011.

Further questions

If you have any questions in relation to this survey please contact Steven Smith on 96141577 or steven.smith@cfecfw.asn.au.

Thanking you in anticipation

Regards,

Steven Smith