

4. A new family day care service in a remote area

Flexible Initiatives Trial – Stream 1 scenarios

Community need

Located in a remote area, Happy Bugs Family Day Care identifies a need for quality accessible early childhood education and care, amid the compounding challenge of limited transportation options in the region.



The proposal

Happy Bugs proposes to implement a new family day care service, offering both quality care for local children and addressing the transport accessibility challenge.

The plan

The Happy Bugs team puts together a plan that includes as recruitment of diploma educators and administrative staff; an investment in training; hire of a minibus and driver for 3 hours a day; and some minor capital works to complete essential repairs, safety enhancements, equipment upgrades, and improve accessibility of the family day care residence for the purpose of the program.

The budget

| Item | Trial cost |
|--|------------------|
| Staff | |
| 1 x full-time diploma educator for program establishment | \$15,080 |
| Admin | |
| 1 x 0.25 x full-time equivalent of a diploma educator for 4 weeks (temporary cost) | \$2,320 |
| Training | |
| Upskilling of new staff 0.5 of a full-time diploma educator for 4 weeks (temporary cost) | \$2,320 |
| Minor capital works | |
| One-time cost to cover minor building modifications and purchase educational equipment | \$20,000 |
| Transport | |
| Hire minibus + driver for 3 hours per day at \$90 per hour (ongoing cost) | \$93,600 |
| 1 x additional supervisor at 1 x full-time diploma educator for 3 hours per day (ongoing cost) | \$22,620 |
| Total cost | \$155,940 |

Grant application

The Happy Bugs team submits a grant application outlining the above information. The application is assessed and is successful. They sign a funding agreement.

Implementation

Happy Bugs Family Day Care is successful in recruiting an educator to work in a family day care setting. They put together a wraparound team that can offer transport, education and care for up to 4 preschool-aged children at a time, ensuring personalised attention and continuity of care.

The service actively engages with their community. They partner with low-SES and CALD families, embracing cultural sensitivities and relevant multilingual resources. They make the best use of IT and software to streamline their administration, so they can free up educators to focus on caring for and educating young children.

Crucially, the new Happy Bugs Family Day Care service collects feedback, records observations of children's progress, and fosters development. This two-way interaction guides further enhancements, ensuring the program remains rooted in community needs.

Outcomes

Happy Bugs bridges gaps and fosters children's growth in an accessible, home like environment.



Learn more

Scan the QR code to find out all about the Flexible Initiatives Trial