How We Can Help You



Assistance for Kin Carers



This session will cover:

- Carers
- Help for carers
- New payments for carers
- Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment
- Where to go for more information

Kin carers play a valuable part in New Zealand society

At the end of March 2013, 8,614 carers were receiving Orphan's Benefit or Unsupported Child's Benefit for 12,069 children.

- 96% of the 8,614 carers were receiving Unsupported Child's Benefit
- 70.5% of carers were aged between 40 and 64, while 12% were 65 and over
- A small study in 2006 suggests that almost half of carers are grandparents raising grandchildren.

Help for Carers Benefits and Pensions

- Orphan's Benefit
- Unsupported Child's Benefit
- Other benefits (Jobseeker Support, Supported Living Payment, Sole Parent Support, etc)
- Pensions (New Zealand Superannuation or Veteran's Pension)

Help for Carers Additional Assistance

- Childcare assistance
- Accommodation Supplement
- Disability Allowance
- Child Disability Allowance
- Community Services Card
- Help for hardship or emergencies
- Child Youth and Family

Help for Carers Assistance from other agencies

- Community agencies
- Inland Revenue Working for Families Tax Credits
 - Family tax credit
 - In-work tax credit
 - Minimum family tax credit
 - Parental tax credit

New Payments for Carers

Two new payments are available for carers receiving the Orphan's Benefit or the Unsupported Child's Benefit:

- Establishment Grant
- School and Year Start-Up Payment

An Extraordinary Care Fund will be introduced from July next year.

Establishment Grant

- For carers granted Orphan's Benefit or the Unsupported Child's Benefit granted from 13 January
- \$350 for each child
- Only paid once even if child leaves and comes back into care
- Home for Life Support Package clients not eligible
- No application required

School and Year Start-up Payment

- Orphan's Benefit or the Unsupported Child's Benefit clients must apply in January/February each year
- Helps with beginning of year costs for preschool and school-aged children, eg stationery, uniforms
- Paid for each child with amounts based on the child's age
- It's easy to apply online

School and Year Start-up Payment Rates		
Age of child	2014	2015
Under 5 years	\$250	\$400
5-9 years	\$300	\$450
10-13 years	\$350	\$500
14+ years	\$400	\$550

Extraordinary Care Fund

- Will be introduced from July 2014 for Orphan's Benefit or the Unsupported Child's Benefit carers
- Available for carers of children with difficulties significantly impacting on their development or who are showing promise
- Grants of up to \$2,000 Details of the fund still being worked through

Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment

Youth Payment

 a weekly payment to young people aged 16 or 17 who can't live with their parents or guardian and aren't supported by them or anyone else

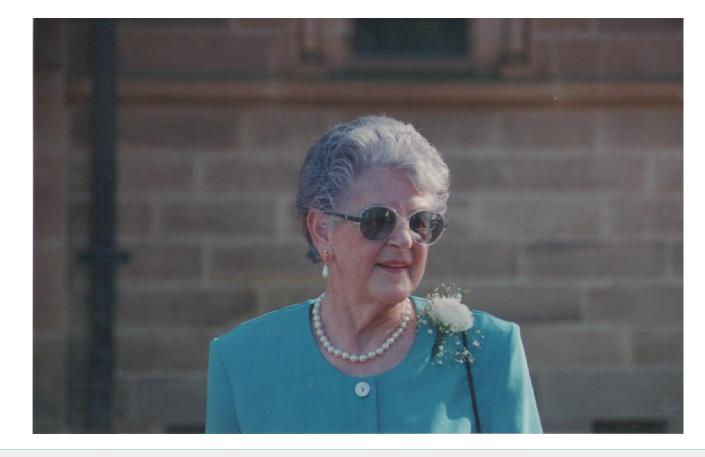
Young Parent Payment

 a weekly payment for 16 to 18 year old parents who have dependent children, and are in need of financial assistance.

Where to go for more information

- Visit <u>www.workandincome.govt.nz</u>
- Call Work and Income on **0800 559 009**
- Visit your local Work and Income or Senior Services Office

Significant person



More children are safe