

Flexible Funding Assistance for families with kids in emergency housing

Staying in emergency housing can create increased costs and needs for young parents with children.

We want these families to get the support they need to stay connected with education, early childhood and other activities important for the family's wellbeing.

From 2 November, Flexible Funding Assistance will give Youth Coaches more options to support young parents who have extra costs and needs because they're staying in emergency housing.

Flexible Funding Assistance does not need to be paid back, and it's non-taxable.

What it's for

Flexible Funding Assistance can help young parents with dependent children staying in emergency housing with additional needs:

- caused by staying in emergency housing
- not met by other support
- related to education, early childhood and the family's wellbeing, eg:
 - transport to early childhood education, school, out-of-school activities, work, training or property viewings.
 - extra childcare or after-school activities to reduce time spent in a motel environment or so a parent can attend property viewings.
 - health services such as higher doctor's fees because it's not practical to travel to their usual doctor.

Accessing Flexible Funding Assistance for young parents

If you have a young parent who is eligible and whose need can't be met any other way, you can recommend them for Flexible Funding Assistance.

Once you submit the ART task *EH Flexible Funding Assistance* YSSU will contact the regional housing manager who will assess the young parent's need and eligibility and arrange a service through a contracted provider. Once sorted, we'll give you the details, so you can let the young parent know.

If you have questions, get in touch with YSSU youthservice@msd.govt.nz.