

Response to the Draft Recommendations made in the draft report A path to universal early childhood education and care.

The Menindee Children's Centre is strongly in support of the Draft Report A path to universal early childhood education and care. We would like to voice our support with specific reference to the following recommendations, in the belief the such changes to the Early Childhood Education and Care system would enable better access to, and provision of Early Childhood education and Care in small low-socio economic communities in Australia such as our own community, Menindee.

Draft recommendation 5.1 with reference to financial support to services wishing to operate in low-socio economic and low demand communities. As well as the opportunity for specific arrangements for Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to be co-designed with there communities.

Draft Recommendation 3.6 the support for the ECEC workforce to access professional development would enable greater access for educators but also place an emphasis on the professional standing in which the roll and the profession should be views.

We strongly support Draft recommendation 7.6 and the importance of creating a wrap-around preschool approach. This is something that had formed a barrier for many families in our community, families find that the preschool operations of weeks a year may work better for many of them however the hour of operation do not support them to engage in the workforce. Parents in remote communities often have to make the choice to work restricted hrs or leave/not take up employment until their child has reached formal schooling due to the absence of Out of Preschool Hours care for children in the age group.

Thank you for taking the time to read our submitting an for the work you are carrying out in pursuit of best educational outcomes for your earliest learners.