



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Connect in Gippsland Program?

The Connect in Gippsland Program wants to empower people with disability and their carers, parents and kinship carers to make connections that meet their needs and interests. We will work with people across Gippsland to connect them to services and supports in their communities and to improve their wellbeing.

Who is the program for?

The Connect in Gippsland Program is for you if you live in Gippsland and you are a:

- Carer, parent or kinship carer of a person with disability (of any age)
- Young person with disability aged 16-25

What will the program do?

Our Connectors:

- Will help you to explore your interests, support needs and choices – this might be:
 - Making social connections
 - Getting peer support
 - Connecting to services
 - Advocacy and understanding your rights
 - Pathways to education and work
 - Trying new activities
 - We will explore whatever matters to you with you
- We will work with you to make a plan that helps you make connections to meet your interests, needs and choices, to get the supports you want and to improve your wellbeing.
- We will support you to take the next steps and make these connections once you have your plan.

What does connecting to the program look like?

- You can contact us to say you would like to be part of the program.
- A service or organisation you are already connected with can contact us for you.
- We will get information from you – your contact details, how you would like us to communicate with you, whether you are a carer/parent/kinship carer, and/or a person with disability.

What happens next?

- Once we have your information, we will contact you.
- We will have a conversation with you about the program. We might also talk about what is happening for you and what matters to you.
- If you would like to go to the next step, we will give you information on your rights, responsibilities and privacy, and get your consent to be part of the program.
- You can choose what goes into your plan and we will start working with you on
- You can ask us questions at any time.
- You can have a support person with you when you meet with or talk to us if you need to.
- You will choose what happens after this:
 - You might start connecting to the supports in your plan.
 - You might stay connected with us if you would like us to help to put your plan into action, or if things change for you.
 - We will check in with you to see if you would like more support from us.

Where will this happen?

- We will meet in person at one of our locations in Bairnsdale, Morwell, Warragul or Wonthaggi, or in the community to get to know you and work on your plan.
- We can also meet online.
- We can also communicate with you on the phone or through email.

How long will I be part of the program?

- You might be part of the program for a short time, or a longer time (up to 12 weeks), but we will work with you to decide how often we meet to work on your plan or how often we check in with you.
- You do not have to come to regular appointments – we can be flexible.

What if I need longer support?

You can talk to us about this and we will try to connect you to more support.

Who do I talk to if I have more questions?

You can contact our team by emailing connectingippsland@gippscasa.org

You can also call/text Larissa on 0484 568 031 for Inner Gippsland or Toni on 0477 979 933 for Outer Gippsland.