

## **Early Childhood Programs**

The table below shows the Alliance Member Aboriginal community controlled organisation (ACCOs) who deliver Early Years Programs. This includes Childcare/Kindergarten, Koorie Playgroups, Best Start (including parenting programs), Cradle Kinder, Koorie Preschool Assistant, Koorie Families as First Educators and Maternal Child Health Nurse.

ACCOs	Child Care & Kindergarten	Playgroups	Best Start	Cradle to Kinder	Koorie Preschool Assistant (KPSA)	Koorie Families as First Educators	Maternal Child Health Nurse
Loddon Mallee & Campaspe							
BDAC: Bendigo & District Njernda: Echuca MVAC: Murray Valley (Robinvale) MDAS: Mallee District (Swan Hill & Mildura)	Njernda, MVAC BDAC (in development)	MDAS	Njernda	Njernda MDAS, Njernda, MDAS,	BDAC, MDAS, Njernda	BDAC MDAS	BDAC Njernda MDAS MVAC
Central Highlands, South West Wimmera and Barwon							
BADAC: Ballarat & District Goolum Goolum (Horsham) Winda-mara (Heywood/Hamilton) Gunditjmara: (Warrnambool) DWECH: Dhauwurd Wurrung (Portland) Wathaurong (Geelong)	BADAC	BADAC Goolum Goolum Winda-Mara Gunditjmara DWECH Wathaurong	Goolum Goolum Wathaurong	Wathaurong, Goolum Goolum, Gunditjmara, Winda-Mara	BADAC Goolum Goolum, Gunditjmara Winda-Mara Wathaurong	BADAC Wathaurong	Gunditjmara Wathaurong
Southern Melbourne, Bayside Peninsula, Inner & Outer Gippsland							
DDACL (Dandenong) GEGAC (Bairnsdale) Ramahyuck (Morwell & Sale)	DDACL GEGAC, Ramahyuck	Ramahyuck	Ramahyuck	Ramahyuck GEGAC			Ramahyuck
Goulburn & Ovens Murray							
Rumbalara (Mooroopna) Mungabareena (Wodonga)	Rumbalara Mungabareena	Rumbalara Mungabareena		Rumbalara,		Rumbalara Mungabareena	
15 ACCOs	7 ACCOs	10 ACCOs	4 ACCOs	6 ACCOs	8 ACCOs	6 ACCOs	8 ACCOs

All 15 Members of the Alliance deliver some elements of Early Childhood Support.





## **Early Childhood Programs**

**Child Care and Kindergarten:** A centre providing culturally specific care for children under four years.

**Playgroup:** A culturally safe space for families to gather and for children to develop socially and educationally through play.

**Best Start:** A place-based early years partnership initiative that aims to improve the health, development and learning of Aboriginal children from conception to age 8. It involves local organisations partnering to provide prevention strategies, referral pathways, targeted supports and increase participation in kindergarten and maternal and child health services

**Cradle to Kinder:** This program is for young pregnant women (under 25 years of age). Aboriginal Cradle to Kinder provides a whole-of-family service in the form of pre-birth support, intensive and longer term interventions, and case work support, until the child reaches 4 years old.

**Koorie Preschool Assistant (KPSA)** The Koorie Preschool Assistant works collaboratively to enhance Koorie access and participation in kindergartens, provide information and support to Koorie families and communities, support attendance of Koorie children, assist in the delivery of Koorie inclusive programs, encourage involvement of Koorie parents, families, and carers in the development of kindergarten programs, and promote Koorie inclusive environments in kindergartens.

**Koorie Families as First Educators:** This program supports Koorie families to provide a strong foundation for their children's early learning and development by delivering high-quality, culturally safe evidence based parenting support programs (pre-birth up to and including transition to school) This includes funding available for evidenced-based training such as Circle of Security or Triple P Parenting.

Maternal Child Health Nurse: These Aboriginal-led Maternal Child Health Nurse programs offers families choice and flexibility in how they access Maternal Child Health Services. It helps to provide better health outcomes by providing this service through their local Aboriginal community controlled organisation. The service is usually based at the Health Service.

## **Other Programs:**

Aboriginal Early Years Access (C4C): The Aboriginal Early Years Access worker aims to increase the participation rates of Aboriginal children and families within children, family support and universal services by building cultural competence of early years services and making stronger links between Aboriginal children and families. (BDAC)

Children's Resource Worker: The Children's Resource Worker is responsible for the development and delivery of group therapy programs to children who may have been affected by family violence and/or homelessness aged between 5-12 years of age. This 7 week program is available through linkages between other services within BDAC or referral through Intake. The Children's Resource Worker will also provide individual advocacy, referral, care planning and support for children (BDAC)

