Primary Care Reform CHF Consumer Roundtables- Medicare Thriving Kids

Department of Health, Disability and Aging

EOI submissions due: 9:00am AEDT Monday 16 November 2026

What's this about?

Medicare Thriving Kids is new program being developed by the Australian Government to provide information, advice, and, where necessary, navigation support to families, carers and those interacting with children aged 1- 8 with development or behavioural concerns.

Medicare Thriving Kids will be delivered using telephone and online channels and is intended to launch in July 2027. It is part of the broader Thriving Kids program being developed and implemented jointly by the Commonwealth, State, and Territory Governments between October 1, 2026, and January 1, 2028.

This roundtable will focus on generating consumer insights to help design what the Medicare Thriving Kids program offers and how it is delivered. Other components of the Thriving Kids program are not within scope for this Roundtable, beyond identifying potential gaps or omissions which could potentially be filled via the Medicare service.

Learn more:

- Thriving Kids Australian Commonwealth Government supports overview and implementation timelines (general)
- Thriving Kids Australian Commonwealth Government supports overview and implementation timelines (easy read)

What's the opportunity?

CHF is recruiting consumers to take part in a roundtable discussion. As a participant, you will:

- *Share your lived experience as a parent, carer, family member, or supporter of young children aged 1-8*
- *Discuss what information, advice and service navigation support would be most useful to families or groups like yours*
- *Help inform the design of Medicare Thriving Kids ahead of its rollout*

Who should apply?

You are encouraged to apply if you:

- Are a parent, carer or family member of children aged 1-8, whether or not those children have developmental or behavioural concerns;
- Are someone who is considering having children within the next 5 years; or
- Are a member of the community who regularly interacts with children aged 1-8 e.g. Teacher, Scout Leader, Sports Coach

Consumers from diverse cultural backgrounds, ages, genders and metropolitan, regional and rural areas are encouraged to apply.

What is involved

Successful participants will be asked to:

- Watch a Briefing Webinar: a short prerecorded webinar (~15 minutes long) giving an overview of the Medicare Thriving Kids program, provided at least one week before the roundtable.
- Complete pre-reading: roughly 30-45 minutes, provided at least a week before the roundtable.
- Participate in the Roundtable: Tuesday November 24, 2026, 2:00pm-3:30pm AEDT, via Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

You will need access to a computer and reliable internet. If this is a barrier, please contact the CHF Consumer Engagement team: admin@chf.org.au .

Remuneration

- Participants will be remunerated at the CHF standard rate of $95.20 per hour, covering:
- *Up to 60 minutes for prereading and preparation, including watching the webinar*
- *Up to 90 minutes for the Roundtable*

How to apply

Note- it is not required for you to have a child or children with developmental or behavioural concerns to participate in the roundtable. This question is to ensure we get representation from the broad mix of potential life stages and circumstances of people who may interact with the Medicare Thriving Kids program.

To be considered for appointment, you MUST complete an online application that will ask questions including:

1) *Are you a:*
- *A parent of a child or children aged 1-8*
- *A carer of a child or children aged 1-8*
- *A family member of a child or children aged 1-8*
- *A community member who interacts with children aged 1-8*
- *Someone currently considering having or intending to have children before 1 Jan 2028.*
- *Prefer not to say*

2) *This question is optional: Does that child or children have developmental or behavioural concerns? (Yes/No/Unsure/Prefer not to say)*

To submit your application:

- Submit your EOI applications online: Consumer Engagement Opportunities: Expressions of Interest Form (2026) – Fill out form

- Submission deadline:
  - Date: Monday 16 November 9am AEDT
  - Time:
    - ACT/NSW/TAS/VIC: 9am AEDT
    - QLD: 8am AEST
    - SA: 8:30am ACDT
    - NT: 7:30am ACST
    - WA: 6am AWST

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Questions?

- If you have questions about applying, please email admin@chf.org.au