



Victoria's first Ruby's Reunification Program for at risk young people.



More at risk young people will receive the support they need to stay in the family home, with Uniting Vic.Tas securing philanthropic funding to establish Victoria's first Ruby's Reunification Program in Ballarat.

What is Ruby's Reunification Program?

Ruby's works to keep young people (aged 12 to 17 years) out of the homelessness sector and out-of-home care services, and in their family home, through a voluntary therapeutic residential and counselling service.

The program is aimed at young people experiencing family conflict, or at risk of homelessness, and who need a safe place to stay in the short-term while they and their families work towards reunification. Ruby's follows an early intervention model and operates with the aim that reconciling with family and returning home, where it's safe to do so, is the best option for many young people.

Who will stay there?

Young people aged 12-17 years who need short term accommodation as a circuit breaker from family conflict. For example, they may stay 2-3 nights a week before returning home.

Around 15 young people will stay there on alternate days during the week. It is not a longer term residential facility. The young people will be supported by an onsite full-time Team Leader and Counsellor. Additionally, they will receive support from youth or family counsellors.

Why was Ballarat Chosen as the location?

The Ballarat area has been chosen as the location for the first Ruby's in Victoria based on need and its proximity to Uniting Vic.Tas child, youth and family and homelessness services.

Learn more

unitingvictas.org.au/Ruby's

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