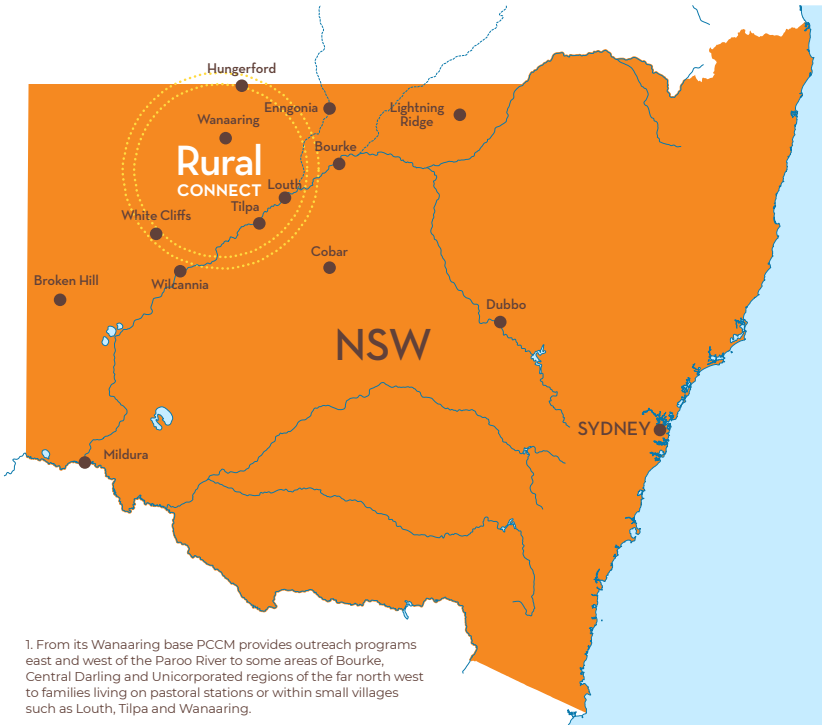


RuralCONNECT

SCHOLARSHIP

Supporting
remote families
and their
children in far
western NSW



1. From its Wanaaring base PCCM provides outreach programs east and west of the Paroo River to some areas of Bourke, Central Darling and Unincorporated regions of the far north west to families living on pastoral stations or within small villages such as Louth, Tilpa and Wanaaring.

Introduction

RuralCONNECT is a collaborative Contact and RFDSSE project created to better support young families living in rural and remote parts of northwestern NSW.

RuralCONNECT offers a range of information and support services for families with children aged between 0 and 12 years of age living in areas previously serviced by Paroo Contact Children's Mobile (PCCM).

Findings from the RuralCONNECT project will be used by Contact and RFDSSE to develop and explore ways to fill regional child and family service gaps and support the potential reinstating of PCCM.

RuralCONNECT 12-month Scholarship

Contact and the Royal Flying Doctor Service SE (RFDSSE) are committed to enhancing the lives of rural and remote people and their communities by encouraging individuals to obtain skills that may lead to future employment pathways.

Contact and RFDSSE are pleased to offer a 12-month scholarship assisting towards obtaining of Children's Services, Community Services or Nursing qualification suitable for employment in early childhood, or nursing or related child and family health or community programs. The scholarship will provide funding towards educational costs (exception of HECS fees or loans) such as books, equipment, travel, accommodation linked to the course requirements complemented by access to professional mentoring opportunities that will be offered to the successful applicant.

Looking to the future, expressions of interest are sought to receive a 12-month scholarship from individuals that live in the Wanaaring region previously covered by PCCM.

It is anticipated that any qualification study programs will be delivered through accredited VET or University providers on an external basis.

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Essential Criteria

Applicants will demonstrate:

- Residency within the PCCM service delivery region⁽¹⁾ encompassing some areas of Bourke, Central Darling or Unincorporated Local Government areas
- Understanding of far western NSW community issues
- Willingness to complete the qualification and practical components of the course
- Strong commitment to obtaining or extending an existing qualification and securing future employment in the local region in relevant fields such as early childhood and/or child and family support or health programs
- Willing to (if applicable) ask current employer to sign an agreement stating their commitment to support the student completing this scholarship
- Capability (as applicable) to attend course residential aspects and participate in other scholarship supports as required
- Ability to supply telephone supporting references from current employment, community organisations/leaders and elders and participate in selection processes with Contact and RFDSSE representatives

Desirable Criteria

- Demonstrated involvement in the community, paid or voluntary
- A desire to learn and support others

Eligibility

Eligibility for the scholarship shall be restricted to applicants that:

- Live within in the PCCM past service delivery region – defined sections of Bourke, Central Darling and Unincorporated Local Government areas ⁽¹⁾
- Are enrolled or wish to enrol in defined VET or University or post-secondary course
- Present written application by prescribed closing date and time. Applications received after the closing date and time will not be considered under any circumstances for any reason

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Method of Application

- Applications must be submitted electronically in writing to the Contact CEO detailing how the guidelines can be met and address the Selection Criteria
- Applications to be received no later than 5.00pm on 23 October 2020
- A Contact and Royal Flying Doctor Service SE selection panel will review all applications received and invite shortlisted candidates to a telephone or videolink interview

Enquiries: Sue Kingwill, Contact CEO
Telephone: 0458 925 144

Scholarship

Obligation of Recipient

- Supply progressive results or as requested, progress verbal and/or written report(s) from the University or VET course must be presented to Contact CEO
- Withdrawal of course may result in the return of defined items purchased through the scholarship such as equipment
- Scholarship installments will be paid or reimbursed to the recipient or paid to agreed outlet upon the supply of supporting materials, receipts and/or relevant documentation

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RuralCONNECT 12-month Scholarship Application Form

Applications to be received no later than 5.00 pm on 23 October 2020.

Please send application to: Sue Kingwill, Contact CEO
Email: sue@contactinc.com.au
Subject Line: Scholarship Application

Name

Residential Address

Mailing Address

Mobile

Landline

Email

Existing Tertiary Qualifications or level of Secondary School completion

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Relevant Course that Applicant would like to enrol with or is already enrolled

Examples (not exclusive)

Certificate 4 in Children's Services; or Community Services; Diploma of Community Services or Children's Services or Diploma in Child and Family Health Nursing; University level; Bachelor of Early Childhood or equivalents; Applied Social Sciences, Nursing, Graduate Certificate in Child & Family Health Nursing or Community Development, Community Welfare or Health and Community or equivalents.

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Reason for Applying

Why as the potential recipient do you wish to work in the early childhood, child and family support or nursing fields? *(250 words or less)*

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Applicant Future Goals

If you were the successful scholarship recipient, what do you intend to do upon graduation and how this course will assist you with future employment. *(100 words or less)*

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Applicant – Current Situation

1. Please outline any current employment or voluntary roles in the region. *(100 words or less)*

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2. Please outline how you would intend to manage existing employment and personal roles and balance a commitment to complete your tertiary studies including, if required, placements or on campus activities over the next 12 months. *(200 words or less)*

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**If you were the successful applicant, are you able to supply two telephone referees?
(Professional or Personal)**

Name: Telephone:

Name: Telephone:

Any other information that you may wish to supply *(capped maximum 25 words)* or attach to support your application.

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Signature:

Date: