

Ellen Barron Family Centre

Pre-referral Guidelines

The service provides a Statewide specialist child health service to families requiring tertiary level intensive (residential inpatient and/or virtual) intervention to gain practical skills and confidence in parenting young children from birth up to the child's 3rd birthday. The Ellen Barron Family Centre (EBFC) receives referrals from throughout Queensland, northern New South Wales and the Northern Territory.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- The parent/carer is currently experiencing parenting issues of a complex nature generating high level stress and imminent risk to the family.
- Parent/carer is experiencing significant difficulties which could be assisted by intervention from an intensive residential inpatient or virtual program.
- Comprehensive community-based service intervention for example Child Health has been attempted and deemed unsuccessful in addressing the problem.
- Other appropriate primary and secondary available interventions have been utilised without success (e.g. Triple P, Infant Mental Health Services, Early Feeding Clinics, Parent Management Clinics, Australian Breastfeeding Association, Child Health Line via 13Health, Adult Mental Health Services, Speech Therapy, Dietitian, Parent Help Line, General Practitioner and Paediatrician).
- The parent/carer has agreed to participate in the program.
- There are no current acute illnesses or infectious diseases of family members.
- Parent/carer agrees and acknowledges not to use any illicit substances or alcohol during the admission (except prescribed opiate replacement therapy).
- Parent/carer is not in need of acute mental health intervention and is able to participate in the program throughout admission.
- There is no naso-gastric tube insitu and family has a clear current feeding plan in place.

REFERRAL PROCESS

- A written referral to EBFC must **contain sufficient detailed information** for the Triage Team to make an informed decision regarding admission to EBFC.
- Details for all admitting family members/support persons should be included on the referral for example full name, phone number, email address and DOB.
- **Information provided allows the Triage Team to assess the appropriateness of the referral** and the ability of the program to meet the goals and needs of the family as detailed on the referral form.

REFERRAL OUTCOMES

- Family is accepted for admission. Parents may be contacted for further supporting information if required.
- Declined due to insufficient information/further community intervention required.
- Declined as does not meet the referral or age criteria.

**BOARDERS

A boarder is defined as a person who is receiving food and/or accommodation but for whom the Centre does not accept responsibility for treatment and/or care. A boarder includes: parent/carer, grandparent, support person (adult) and a child between the ages of three to five years.

