



Wesley Foster Care Services

Wesley Dalmar Aftercare program

**How do I access
my personal information?**

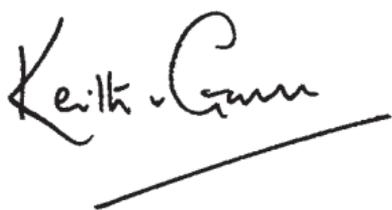


‘Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.’

Mission

Continuing the work of Jesus Christ in Word and deed

Wesley Dalmar has been caring for children for more than 120 years, and today we provide homes for more than 650 children in residential and foster care. If you were in our care as a child, we want to make sure you have access to any personal records that we hold and to any additional support you need, including the opportunity to talk about what it was like during your time at Wesley Dalmar. This brochure contains essential information which can help you to access these services.



Rev Dr Keith V Garner
Superintendent/CEO



What is the Wesley Dalmar Aftercare program and how can I access my records?

The Wesley Dalmar Aftercare program supports people once they have left foster care.

Wesley Dalmar has records of all children who have been in our care. If you lived in a residential home, in a group home or with Wesley Dalmar foster carers we will have records of your time with us. You are welcome to access your file as outlined below:

- If you left our care less than seven years ago, please call the office that managed your time in care and ask to speak to the Manager. Contact numbers for our offices can be found on the back of this brochure.
- If you left our care more than seven years ago, please call our Carlingford office, and ask to speak with our Wesley Dalmar Aftercare Worker.

What information do I need to provide?

You will need to provide evidence of your identity in order to get access to your personal information. This could be:

- a letter or statement from a current Wesley Dalmar staff member who knows you, or
- 100 points of identification, this usually requires at least three forms of evidence of your identity (e.g. birth certificate, driver's licence, Medicare card).

These guidelines ensure that your personal information is treated with care and that it is only released to you. If you have any problems accessing this proof of identity, please feel free to ask us for help.

What can I expect to find in my file?

Where possible, we will provide you with the following:

- original birth certificate
- original photos, medical and dental records, school reports, artwork
- copies of other documents, including notes made by your case manager, with confidential details of third parties removed to ensure their privacy.

We aim to balance your right to know about your history with the rights of third parties to maintain confidentiality. For example, we do not give out the addresses of past foster carers without first getting their permission.

If you have been in care with brothers and sisters and each sibling consents to the others seeing their information, the file can be shared among all of you.

Once people mentioned in the file have died, there is no restriction on the release of information about them. If you need to access a deceased relatives file, you will need to provide a death certificate.





What happens when I receive my file?

Preparing a copy of your file may take some time. Once it is ready, you will be invited to meet with Wesley Dalmar's Aftercare Worker or a case manager to go through the file copy which you can then take away with you. Reading about your past for the first time can be difficult, so we encourage you to bring a trusted friend or relative with you. Whatever is said in this meeting will always be kept confidential.

How can I get more help?

In recognition of the needs of past Wesley Dalmar residents, an assessment and treatment program is now available free of charge through Wesley Hospital. The psychology service here has a wealth of experience in assisting people recovering from past trauma. You may also choose to nominate your own registered psychologist or psychiatrist. If you need to access this support service, please talk to Wesley Dalmar's Aftercare Worker, who will be able to help you.



How do I find out more?

To arrange an appointment to view your file and/or talk about what it was like during your time at Wesley Dalmar, please phone (02) 9857 2511.

wesleymission.org.au

Wesley Mission services

For over 200 years our commitment to Christian faith has guided us to create long-term holistic solutions that address the needs of the whole person, not just their current challenges.



Wesley Congregational Life



Wesley Family



Wesley Youth



Wesley Seniors



Wesley Foster Care Services



Wesley Disability Services



Wesley Homeless Services



Wesley Counselling Services



Wesley Mental Health Services



Wesley Carer Services



Wesley Help at Home Services



Wesley Employment, Training & Conferences



200
YEARS
Pioneering care

Contact us

**Wesley Dalmar
Aftercare program**
PO Box 2446
Carlingford Court NSW 2118
(02) 9857 2511
dalmar@wesleymission.org.au

**Wesley Dalmar
Out of Home Care services**

Ballina
10-12B/92 Tamar Street,
Ballina NSW 2478
(02) 6681 5622

Bella Vista
T1 Building, Unit 436,
Level 4, 14 Lexington Drive,
Bella Vista NSW 2153
(02) 8805 7200

Central Sydney
PO Box 366,
Summer Hill NSW 2130
(02) 9569 1788

Gosford
G3/207 Albany Street North,
Gosford NSW 2250
(02) 4320 1200

Hawkesbury
Suite 2, Level 1 Deerubbin Centre,
300 George Street,
Windsor NSW 2756
(02) 4587 4200

Maitland
226a High Street,
Maitland NSW 2320
(02) 4933 0077

Penrith
Suite 202, 148 Henry Street,
Penrith NSW 2750
(02) 4723 9288

Taree
Level 1, 1 Pulteney Street,
Taree NSW 2430
(02) 6552 0277

Tuggerah
Unit 3/13 Anzac Road,
Tuggerah NSW 2259
(02) 4305 3300

Get involved

To volunteer, donate or leave a bequest visit
wesleymission.org.au

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Superintendent/CEO: Rev Dr Keith V Garner

ABN 42 164 655 145 Wesley Mission is a part of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Do all the good you can because every life matters