

The Mother and Child Program Women's Prison Region

Presented by:

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&

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History of the Program



- Full time residential Mother & Child Program established in 1981 in Fairlea Prison
- Operational Guidelines -No policy
- Increase in prisoner numbers effected Program
- Establishment of CIC Steering Committee 2001
- Establishment of Women's Correctional Services Advisory Committee (WCSAC) in 2003



History of the Program continued.....

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- 2005 Program Policy was developed
- 97 Child participants since 2000
- 95 Women participants since 2000
- Additional Family Ties Programs



Why allow children in Prison?

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If it is in the best interest of the child.



Mother & Child Program Eligibility



- Women with dependant infants or children aged less than 5 years
- Pregnant women
- Women on remand

Application & Assessment



Mother & Child Program Worker



Programs Manager



General Manager



Director, Prison Services



Commissioner

Other Programs that Support Family Ties



- Family Visits Program
- School Holiday Program
- Family Ties (Primary Care Giver) Permit
- Weekly visits between mother and their dependant children

Operational Impacts / Challenges



- Different security requirements
- Accommodation - muster capacity
- Children's Property Management
- Children's Health Provisions
- Incident Management
- Emergency Provisions
- Cultural Differences
- Smoking

Ongoing Monitoring

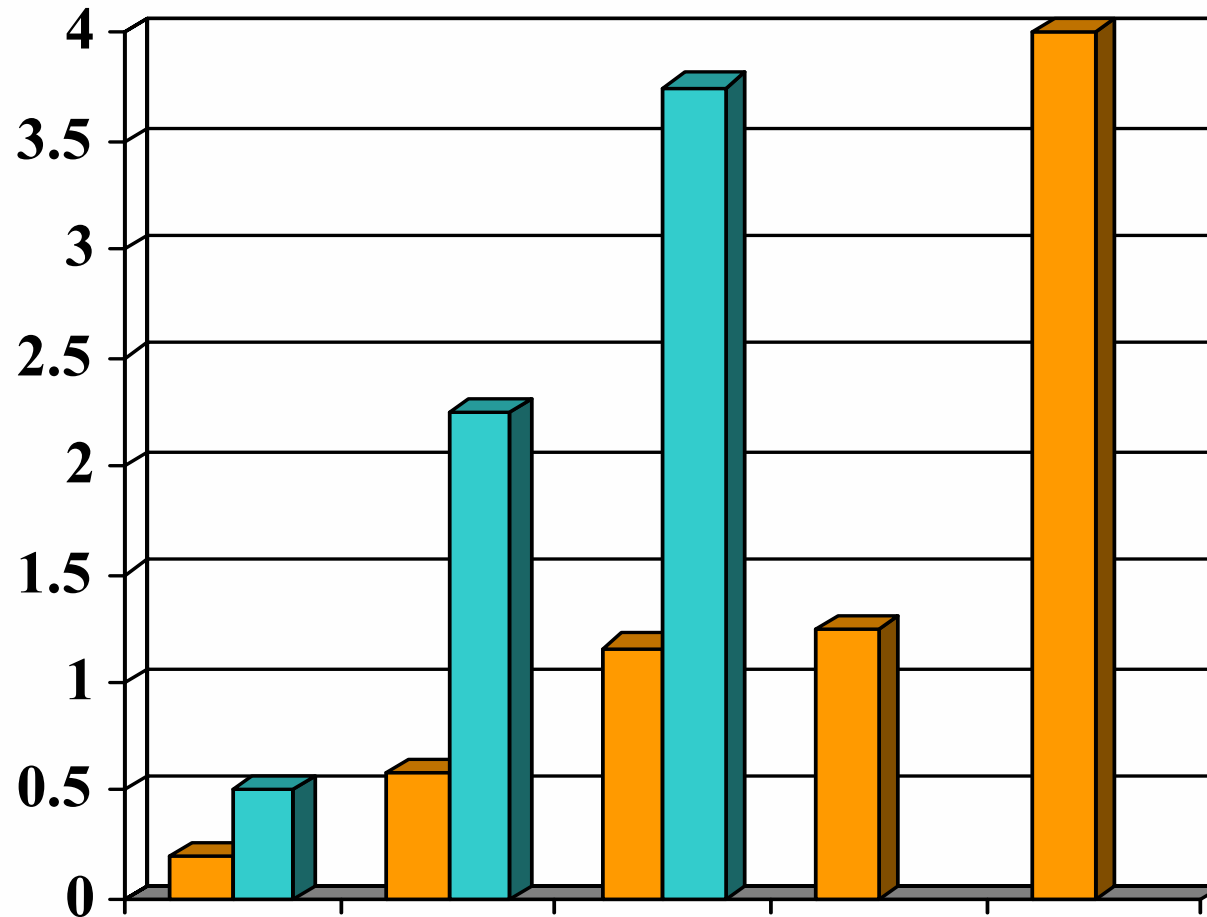


- Monthly Mother & Child Program Report
- Monthly Mother & Child Program Steering Committee Meeting
- Monthly Review and Assessment Meetings
- Bi-Monthly Operational Meeting

Children living in Prison

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DPFC
Tarrengower

Tarrengower Accommodation

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DPFC Accommodation

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Support Services



- Mother and Child Program Worker
- Child Health Services
- Parenting Advice
- Community playgroup or kindergarten programs

Mother and Child Program Worker Role



- Monitor safety and wellbeing
- Provides programs, information and general assistance
- Provides information and support to families
- Writes Child in Custody Application reports
- Reports to the Program Steering Committee
- Liaison with DHS regarding complex needs

Parenting Program Session Topics

- Mother Goose (singing nursery rhymes)
- Child Safety
- Effects of Parental Drug use on Parenting
- Sleep Safety (SIDS)
- Sleep Routine Strategies
- Eating for Toddlers
- Stress Management for Mothers
- Playgroup / Messy play
- Hygiene Practices



Parenting within Prison

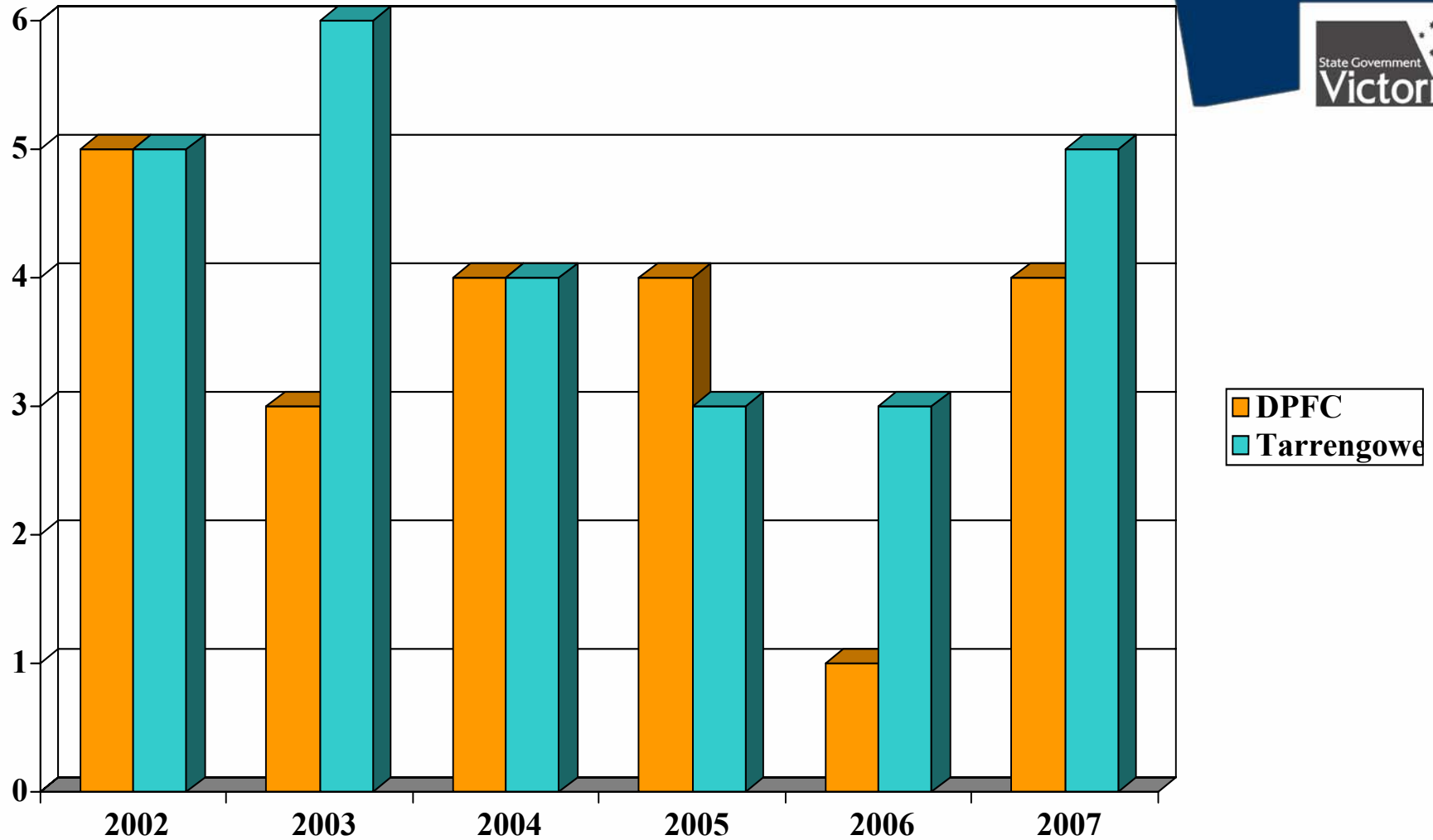


- Additional services provided include;
 - Baby Canteen
 - Baby Special Spends
 - Use of Family Tax Benefit (through Centrelink)
 - Furniture and equipment loans

Average Monthly Participants

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QUESTIONS

