

How do you get in touch with Ruah Women's Support Service?

To meet a Ruah worker in Bandyup Women's Prison or Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women, you need to speak with the Transitional Manager or the Unit Officer to fill out a form requesting to see a worker.

In Bandyup, Ruah will also contact all women on remand to give them information about short term crisis support, and about groups and services offered by WSS.

Women who have already left prison and who are under 30 years of age can page the service (see over) leaving a contact name and number, or write a letter addressed to the post office box provided in this pamphlet.

Transitional Accommodation and Support Service

To apply for support from TASS, a nomination form must be completed and lodged with the Transitional Manager in Bandyup or Boronia at least three months before the earliest release date.

A Ruah worker may also assist with this TASS nomination.



Ruah Community Services' **vision** is a socially just, compassionate, participative and sustainable community. Its **mission** is to redress disadvantage and enhance the human spirit.

Ruah Women's Support Service

Pager (08) 9480 5500
Leave a message for 'Ruah Women's Support Service' and a worker will get back to you as soon as possible.

Address PO Box 218 Leederville WA 6903

Email wss@ruah.com.au

Ruah Head Office

Phone (08) 9485 3939

Web www.ruah.com.au

Ruah Women's Support Service is a program of Ruah Community Services.

Privacy Statement

Ruah Women's Support Service works in accordance with the National Privacy Principles.

If you have any questions regarding the way your information is collected, stored or shared by the Ruah workers or the organisation, please seek advice from the Ruah Women's Support Service Manager.

ABN 98 065 827 787



RUAH COMMUNITY SERVICES



Ruah Women's Support Service

Services for women in prison – pre- and post-release

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Ruah—an ancient Hebrew word meaning Wind, Breath, Spirit of Life

Ruah Women's Support Service

Ruah Women's Support Service is a part of Ruah Community Services – a non-government community service organisation.

Ruah WSS offers a professional, holistic, psychosocial, mobile support service to women who are, or have been, in prison. It is the woman's choice to engage with this free and confidential service.

The range of programs provided by Ruah Women's Support Service include:

Bandyup Women's Prison

- Ruah Young Women's Program
- Ruah Re-Entry Link Program:
 - Remand Support Program
 - Re-Entry Link Support Program
 - Pre-Release InsideOut Lifeskills Group
- Transitional Accommodation and Support
- Housing Support Program

Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women

- Ruah Young Women's Program
- Ruah Re-Entry Link Program:
 - Re-Entry Link Support Program
 - Pre-Release Hurt Program Domestic Violence Group
- Transitional Accommodation Housing Support Program

What do we do?

Young Women's Support Program

This program is contracted by the Department of Health of WA to support young women (up to 30 years of age) who are being released from prison, or who have been in prison during the previous 12 months. Support is provided in the following areas:

- Making positive life changes
- Parole
- Parenting and support with Department for Child Protection (DCP)
- Counselling
- Health and mental health support
- Financial management
- Substance misuse

Re-Entry Link Program

This program is contracted by the Department of Corrective Services to provide support at these specific stages:

- Remand support to women newly arrived at Bandyup
- Life skills information groups in Bandyup and domestic violence groups in Boronia
- Transition planning and support for up to three months pre-release
- Support for up to six months post-release

Common areas of support work include:

- Parole support
- Accessing services within and outside prison
- Referrals to specialist services
- Advocating for women with Department of Housing and Works (DHW), DCP, legal services etc.
- Developing life skills, knowledge and confidence
- Exploring accommodation options

- Finding and using other community services and resources
- Accessing education and training pathways

Transitional Accommodation and Support Service

This program is contracted by the Department of Corrective Services to support women who have no other housing options. TASS is a housing support program, not just housing. There are nine Homeswest houses available and applicants must be in prison to apply for TASS.

Women can nominate to Corrective Services for TASS three months pre-release, and if successful in their application are referred by Corrective Services one month prior to their earliest release date. Women accepted into the program **must** engage in the support offered for six months post-release.

Ruah Housing Support Program

This program is contracted by the DCP, to provide support to women who have accessed transitional housing through TASS, or other programs funded for women leaving prison.

Support is provided for up to 12 months, to access and maintain permanent housing. The Housing Support Worker links in closely with the housing provider/landlord or estate agent to ensure any housing issues are addressed. To facilitate this, the worker works closely with the client in supporting them to address any psychosocial issues that may impact on their ability to successfully maintain their housing.

