

What if I have a criminal record?

You may still be eligible for the program.

It will depend on:




- how many previous offences you have
- what the offences were
- how long ago the offences happened
- whether your record and current behaviour indicates a need for treatment or support
- whether you've had opportunities to participate in other programs in the past (e.g. Drug Court, Community Corrections Order) and how well you participated in these programs.

Need more information?

Barb Williams is a healthcare worker at North Richmond Community Health and the Navigator for New Directions.

Call Barb on 0408 034 412 or email her at barbaraw1@nrch.com.au

Barb is happy to talk to you about any questions you may have.

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North Richmond Community Health (Wulempuri-Kertheba) stands on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people. We pay our respects to their elders, past and present.



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NEW DIRECTIONS

a partnership between North Richmond Community Health, Victoria Police, Neighbourhood Justice Centre and City of Yarra



A program to support you in making positive changes to your life

What is New Directions?

New Directions is a new program available for people who may be charged with some types of offences in the City of Yarra.

If you successfully complete the New Directions program, Victoria Police will drop the charges against you that you were referred for. The program is an alternative to going to court.

New Directions aims to:

- address what has been happening in your life that may have led to you offending through working with a Navigator
- support any positive changes you want to make in your life that you may have difficulty doing by yourself.

How can New Directions help me?

The Navigator (a health care worker) will work with you to identify areas of your life that you want to improve.

This can include things like:

- accommodation
- financial issues
- physical health
- mental health
- substance use
- relationships
- employment
- education.



Am I eligible?

You may be eligible if:

- you are 18 years or older
- your alleged offence happened in the City of Yarra
- the alleged offence happened less than 6 months ago
- you're not on bail or a sentencing order
- police haven't assessed you as 'high risk'
- you're alleged to have committed an eligible offence.

To find out if the offence you have been arrested for is eligible, talk to your arresting officer or your lawyer.

