Estimates Committee 2009
Questions Taken On Notice
(16/6/2009 to 19/6/2009)

Date:	18/06/2009	Output:	1.0 - NT Families and Children
		Sub Output:	1.2 - Child Protection Services
Subject:	Child protection - number of positions created - Alice Springs		

From: Ms Jodeen Carney to Hon Malarndirri McCarthy
Department of Health and Families

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Question: How many extra child protection positions have been created in the last 12 months in Alice Springs?

Answer:
Answered On:
Answer: In the last 12 months, one additional Child Protection Worker position has been funded by NT Families and Children to work within a new Targeted Family Support Service operating under the auspice of Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in Alice Springs. This is a new partnership initiative focussed on Indigenous families where there are multiple needs but no immediate risk of serious harm to the children.

In order to support child protection workers and increase capacity within communities to respond to child protection issues, 11 full time positions and 1 part time position have been created under the Remote Aboriginal Family and Community Workers (RAFCW) Program in 7 Central Australian communities (Ti Tree, Hermannsburg, Yuendumu, Papunya, Santa Theresa, Docker River and Kalkarinji). These 12 positions include 2 full time team leaders located in Alice Springs and 1 part time team leader located in Tennant Creek.

The RAFCW program employs Aboriginal people living in remote communities who have a demonstrated knowledge of the local families and community's dynamics, and the ability to work cross culturally. The workers operate in close partnership with the relevant Child Protection Office.

In addition to the community based positions NT Families and Children utilise a flexible approach which enables the agency to employ workers in response to workload demands. Workers employed over and above establishment are described as supernumerary