Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
23-24 May 2016
BRISBANE Convention and Exhibition Centre
Valuing, Protecting and Promoting Child Wellbeing
Families Australia
National Families Week
#childaware
We would like to thank our sponsors for their generous support

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CPD ACCREDITATION

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Welcome

The Hon Christian Porter MP
Minister for Social Services

Welcome to the 2016 Child Aware Approaches Conference, with its focus on valuing, protecting and promoting child wellbeing.

As many of you know, the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children is a partnership between the Commonwealth and state and territory governments and the non-government sector.

The Third Action Plan, which I launched in December 2015, reflects our shared commitments over the next three years to keep children safe and well and shapes the conference themes.

Despite progress over the first six years of the National Framework, the Australian Early Development Census indicates that 22 per cent of children are developmentally vulnerable in one or more areas when they reach school. Many children are coming to the attention of child protection services, resulting in over 50,000 children on care and protection orders each year.

The Third Action Plan focuses on supporting parents during the early years, assisting young people in out-of-home care transition into adulthood and helping organisations to keep children safe. This reflects feedback from over 300 stakeholders, including children and young people, on priorities for action.

The needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families are a core component of the plan and I know that this will be a focus of your discussions.

Work under the Third Action Plan will also complement the Commonwealth’s $100 million Women’s Safety Package and the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children.

Thank you for your contributions to these important issues and have a very successful conference.
On behalf of Families Australia, I welcome you to the 4th annual Child Aware Approaches Conference. This week, we are also celebrating National Families Week, the conference being one of the highlights of a week of events involving over 100,000 Australians.

Over the next two days, we will continue to advance the goals of the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children 2009–2020, the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022, and the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We are pleased that The Hon Christian Porter MP, Minister for Social Services will welcome you to the conference via video link.

Program highlights include keynote addresses on each of the three conference themes, including an expert panel of young people who have left out-of-home care to become independent young adults. We are honoured to have these young experts share their knowledge and expertise, and for the continued involvement of State and Territory Children’s Commissioners who are supporting this part of the program. We are also excited to be hosting the National Framework Symposium with key members of the National Coalition for Protecting Australia’s Children. This year’s program includes 44 paper presentations, 12 interactive workshops and a total of nine resource tables and posters on display. I encourage you to visit the displays during the breaks.

The 2016 Families Australia Oration will be delivered by June Oscar AO, CEO of Marninwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre. Ms Oscar will be introduced by the Hon Shannon Fentiman MP, Queensland’s Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, and Minister for Child Safety. The Oration and Welcome Reception to follow are proudly supported by the Queensland Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. I would like to thank the Department and all of our other generous sponsors.

I sincerely hope that your experience at this year’s conference will inspire and inform you and that you take the opportunity to network with the diverse range of practitioners, researchers and policy makers concerned with ensuring the safety and wellbeing of Australia’s children.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Families Australia gratefully acknowledges the work of the conference steering group

Alison Brook Relationships Australia
Stella Conroy Families Australia
Christine Gibson Australian Centre for Child Protection, University of South Australia
Paula Hayden Winangay Resources
Daryl Higgins Australian Institute of Family Studies
Elizabeth Hunter Families Australia
Natalie Lewis Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak
Karen Menzies Winangay Resources
Tricia Murray Child and Family Welfare Association of Australia
Bev Orr OAM Australian Foster Care Association
Lynette Stoker Family Action Centre, University of Newcastle
David Templeman Public Health Association of Australia
General Information

Conference Venue
Boulevard Level, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
Grey Street, Southbank, Brisbane
www.bcec.com.au

Conference Registration Desk
Location and Hours
The Conference registration desk will be located at the Boulevard Level foyer and will be open as follows:
Monday 23 May 2016 . . . 07:00 – 17:00
Tuesday 24 May 2015 . . . 07:30 – 17:00
Upon arrival, please ensure you collect your conference handbook and name badge from the registration desk. Arinex staff will be happy to assist you in any way they can.

Catering and Dietary Requirements
Lunches and morning tea (Monday and Tuesday) and afternoon tea (Monday) will be served in the Boulevard Foyer. Lunches will be served as an informal stand-up buffet. Dietary requirements noted on your registration form have been passed on to the catering staff, and will be available from the dedicated catering station. Please ask the catering staff to assist if needed.

Conference Satchel
Each registered attendee will receive a Conference satchel when you collect your name badge.

Delegate List
A delegate list with name, organisation and state will be supplied to delegates and exhibitors at the Conference. Anyone who indicated on their registration form that they did not want their name and organisation to appear on the list has not been included.

Disclosure
Families Australia is committed to providing an unbiased, balanced and objective educational program.

Displays: Resource and Poster
Resource Displays will be located in the foyer from morning tea on Monday until the conclusion of lunch on Tuesday. Please make sure you spend time viewing the displays and discussing the work with the presenters.

Displays: Exhibitors
The Exhibitors’ Displays will be located in the foyer from morning tea on Monday until the conclusion of lunch on Tuesday.

Duplication/Recording
Unauthorised photography, audio taping, video recording, digital taping or any other form of duplication is prohibited during Conference sessions.

Filming and Photography
Families Australia will video all keynote and plenary sessions. A photographer will be capturing the conference action. If you do not wish to be photographed please make sure that you notify the Conference organisers and move away from areas where photography is taking place.

Lost and Found
Please report any lost or found property to the Registration Desk.

Messages
Messages can be left at the Registration Desk. The messages will be posted on the message board situated near the desk. Please check the board on passing.
Mobile Phones
Attendees are asked to switch off their mobile phones when in sessions.

Name Badges
The BCEC is open to the public. For security purposes attendees, speakers and exhibitors are asked to wear their name badge at all times. If you misplace your name badge, please go to the Registration Desk to arrange a replacement.

Program
Every endeavour has been made to produce an accurate program. If you are presenting at the Conference, please confirm your presentation times as contained within this program.

The Conference Committee reserves the right to change the Conference program at any time without notice. Please note that the program is correct at the time of printing.

Speakers’ Preparation Room
All speakers are asked to check into the Speakers’ Preparation Room at least four hours prior to their presentation, where possible, to upload their presentation, or make any necessary changes.

The Speakers’ Preparation Room will be located in the Arbour Speakers’ Lounge on the Arbour level.

The Speaker’s Preparation Room will be open at the following times:
Monday 23 May 2015 . . . 07:00 – 17:00
Tuesday 24 May 2015 . . . 07:30 – 16:30

Smoking
BCEC is a non-smoking venue.

Special Requirements
Every effort has been made to ensure people with special requirements are catered for. Should you require any assistance, please contact the registration desk to enable us to make your attendance at the Conference a pleasant and comfortable experience.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Conference Secretariat
For further enquiries regarding the 2016 Child Aware Approaches Conference, please contact the Conference Secretariat:
Arinex Pty Ltd
childaware2016@arinex.com.au
www.arinex.com.au
07 3328 8745

Disclaimer
Child Aware Approaches Conference including the Conference Secretariat will not accept liability for damages of any nature sustained by participants or their accompanying persons for loss or damage to their personal property as a result the Conference and exhibition or related events. All details contained in this Conference Handbook are correct at the time of printing.

Privacy
Information provided on the registration form will be used to administer the Conference including accommodation, catering, transport, sponsorship and exhibition.

Data obtained will remain the property of Arinex Pty Ltd and Families Australia.
Program

**DAY 1  Monday 23 May 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07:00</td>
<td>Registration opens</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ROOM</strong> BOULEVARD AUDITORIUM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>CHAIR</strong> Dr Brian Babington, CEO Families Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>WELCOME: Prue Warrillow, Families Australia Board Chair</td>
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<td>WELCOME TO COUNTRY: Songwoman Maroochy of the Turrbal People</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MINISTER’S WELCOME: The Hon Christian Porter MP, Minister for Department of Social Services</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OFFICIAL OPENING: Barbara Bennett, Deputy Secretary, Families and Communities, Department of Social Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Advancing children's development and wellbeing in the first 1000 days Kerry Arabena, Director, Indigenous Health Equity Unit, The University of Melbourne</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>MORNING TEA BREAK</td>
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**INVITATION TO FAMILIES AUSTRALIA ORATION**

**SEE PAGE 27 FOR DETAILS**

2016 Families Australia Oration

*Healing to thrive: building the collective strengths of our families for positive generational change*

To be delivered by

**June Oscar AO**

Introduction by **The Hon Shannon Fentiman MP**

**Monday 23 May 2016**

The oration will commence promptly at 4:30pm followed by a cocktail reception at 5:30pm

**Families Australia**
### DAY 1  Monday 23 May 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Concurrent Session 1</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 11:00 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Tricia Murray | Hannah Place - Engaging young mums in care to transition to independence and parenthood  
Megan Welsh, Tracy Ingram and Fatima Krivdic  
Centacare Catholic Family Services |
| 11:00 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Alison Brook   | Family Matters: Kids Safe in Culture Not In Care  
Natalie Lewis  
SNAICC |
| 11:20 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Annette Michaux | Quality Assurance Frameworks and Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People in OOHC |
| 11:40 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Cathy Stirling  | Prioritising Educational Outcomes for Young People in a Residential Care Setting  
Uniting Communities |
| 12:00 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Lucas Moore    | Working Out the NextStep  
CREATE Foundation  
Julia Hayes  
CREATE Foundation Young Consultant |
| 12:00 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Monique Blom   | Safeguarding Children  
Australian Childhood Foundation |
| 12:20 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Dr Susan Tregeagle | Who Adopts Children from Out of Home Care  
Barnardos Australia, Adjunct Senior Lecturer  
University of Sydney |
| 12:40 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Jess Burke and Sarah MacDonald | Young People with Intellectual Disability Transitioning from Out of Home Care  
Community Living Association |
| 13:00 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Simon Schrapel | Lunch Break |
| 14:00 |                      | Boulevard Auditorium B1 | Professor Ross Homel AO | Keynote Presentation: Building child safe organisations and environments  
Professor Ross Homel AO  
Foundation Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University |

**ADVANCING CHILDREN’S DEVELOPMENT AND WELLBEING IN THE FIRST 1000 DAYS**

**BUILDING CHILD SAFE ORGANISATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTS**

**SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE**

**FLOURISH INTO ADULTHOOD**
11:00 Concurrent Session 1  11:00–13:00  

Room Boulevard Auditorium B1

**Chair**  

Tricia Murray  
Alison Brook  
David Templeman  
Sue Packer  
Am

**11:00**  

**Hannah Place - Engaging young mums in care to transition to independence and parenthood**  
Megan Welsh  
Tracy Ingram  
Fatima Krivdic  
Centacare Catholic Family Services

**Family Matters: Kids Safe in Culture Not In Care**  
Natalie Lewis  
SNAICC

**Beyond Compliance: Responding to Children’s Safety Needs and Concerns in Institutional Contexts**  
Dr Tim Moore  
Australian Catholic University

**Beyond Compliance: Responding to Children’s Safety Needs and Concerns in Institutional Contexts**  
Dr Tim Moore  
Australian Catholic University

**The First 1000 Days Matter: Linking Policy, Practice and Investment to Change Children’s Outcomes**  
Sue West  
Murdoch Children’s Research Institute  
Dr Dianne Jackson  
Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth

**11:20**  

**Quality Assurance Frameworks and Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People in OOHC**  
Annette Michaux  
Parenting Research Centre  
Penny Hood  
Family and Community Services

**11:40**  

**Prioritising Educational Outcomes for Young People in a Residential Care Setting**  
Cathy Stirling  
Uniting Communities

**12:00**  

**Working Out the Next Step**  
Lucas Moore  
CREATE Foundation  
Julia Hayes  
CREATE Foundation Young Consultant

**Safeguarding Children**  
Monique Blom  
Australian Childhood Foundation

**E-Technology Harnessing the Potential to Build Safer Communities**  
Karen Field  
Drummond Street Services  
Sarah Mercer  
Millipede

**E-Technology Harnessing the Potential to Build Safer Communities**  
Karen Field  
Drummond Street Services  
Sarah Mercer  
Millipede

**Beginning at the Beginning in Working With Infants**  
Wendy Bunston  
WB Training & Consultancy/La Trobe University  
Ms Karen Glennen  
Colac Area Health

**12:20**  

**Who Adopts Children from Out of Home Care?**  
Dr Susan Tregeagle  
Barnardos Australia, Adjunct Senior Lecturer  
University of Sydney

**12:40**  

**Young People with Intellectual Disability Transitioning from Out of Home Care**  
Jess Burke  
Sarah MacDonald  
Community Living Association

**13:00**  

Lunch Break  
Room Boulevard Auditorium  
Chair Simon Schrapel

**14:00**  

**Keynote Presentation: Building child safe organisations and environments**  
Professor Ross Homelao  
Foundation Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University
# CONCURRENT SESSION 2  ▶ 15:00–16:00

## ROOM
BOULEVARD AUDITORIUM B1

## CHAIR
BEV ORR OAM SUE PACKER AM

#### 15:00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Institution/Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporting At-Risk Pregnant Women and Their Unborn Children: Who Cares?</td>
<td>Rosemaria Flaherty</td>
<td>University of South Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Can Child Welfare and Youth-Serving Organisations Keep Children Safe?</td>
<td>A/Prof Daryl Higgins</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Family Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 15:20

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Institution/Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addressing Family Violence for Children’s Development and Wellbeing in the First 1000 Days</td>
<td>Dr Rebecca Ritte</td>
<td>Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Safe Organisations</td>
<td>Mary Kyrios</td>
<td>The Centre for Excellence in Child &amp; Family Welfare</td>
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#### 15:40

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Institution/Group</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anticipating and Addressing Periods of Increased Risk and Vulnerability in the First 1000 Days</td>
<td>Dr Nicole Milburn</td>
<td>Berry Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Organisational Capacity to Safeguard Children: A Child Safe, Friendly, Aware Health Service</td>
<td>Chris Stanilewicz</td>
<td>ACT Health</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 16:00

**AFTERNOON TEA BREAK**

## CHAIR
PRUE WARRILOW

#### 16:30

**FAMILIES AUSTRALIA ORATION**

*Healing to thrive; building the collective strengths of our families for positive generational change*

**June Oscar AO**, CEO, Marninwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre

Introduction by **The Hon Shannon Fentiman MP**, QLD Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Communities Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety

#### 17:30

**WELCOME RECEPTION**
### Concurrent Session 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B2</th>
<th>B3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RICHARD WESTON</strong></td>
<td><strong>CHRISTINE GIBSON</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creating Healing Informed Organisations</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Years Learning: Foundations for the Future</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lisa Hillan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Geraldine Atkinson</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Healing Foundation</td>
<td>SNAICC</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Utilising Evidence Based, Soft Entry Practices to Build Child Safe Environments</strong></td>
<td><strong>Keeping the Children in the Picture</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A/Prof Kym Macfarlane</strong></td>
<td><strong>Marg D’Arcy</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Griffith University/The Salvation Army</td>
<td>EACH Social and Community Health</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Charmaine Stubbs</strong></td>
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<td>The Salvation Army</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Creating Preventative Systems for Children</strong></td>
<td><strong>An Intensive Early Education Intervention for At Risk Children and Families</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Imogen Wall</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dr Dave Vicary</strong></td>
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<td>ARACY</td>
<td>Children’s Protection Society</td>
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**#childaware**

Join the conversation.
**DAY 2**  
**Tuesday 24 May 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROOM</th>
<th>BOULEVARD AUDITORIUM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHAIR</td>
<td>Andrew McCallum AM, CEO, Association of Children’s Welfare Agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
<td><strong>NATIONAL FRAMEWORK SYMPOSIUM</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr Brian Babington, CEO, Families Australia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr Ros Baxter, Group Manager of Families Group, Department of Social Services</td>
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<td>Dr Mark Collis, Executive Director, Office for Children, Youth and Family Support in the ACT</td>
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<td>Ms Cathy Taylor, Deputy Director-General, Child, Family and Community Services and Southern Operations, QLD Dept of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services</td>
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<td>Ms Maree Walk, Deputy Secretary, Programs and Service Design, NSW Department of Family and Community Services</td>
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<td>Mr Richard Weston, CEO, Healing Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:05</td>
<td><strong>CONCURRENT SESSION 3 10:05–10:45</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM</td>
<td>BOULEVARD AUDITORIUM B1</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAIR</td>
<td>Tricia Murray, Lyn Stoker, Simon Schrapel, Anne M Cleish OAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:05</td>
<td><strong>Using Wings to Change Practices</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Jennifer Cartmel</td>
<td>Griffith University, Menzies Institute of Health QLD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Miller</td>
<td>Pathways to Resilience Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increasing Higher Educational Aspirations for Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary McKinnon</td>
<td>Life Without Barriers</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:25</td>
<td><strong>The Ryde and Northern Beaches Project’s Place Based Approach to Early Intervention in Schools</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Shannon</td>
<td>NSW Dept of Family &amp; Community Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachelle Elphick</td>
<td>Mission Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Cross-Over Kids’: Young People in Youth Justice and Child Protection Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof Rosemary Sheehan</td>
<td>Monash University</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td><strong>MORNING TEA BREAK</strong></td>
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23-24 May 2016 • BRISBANE
Valuing, Protecting and Promoting Child Wellbeing

23-24 May 2016 • BRISBANE
Valuing, Protecting and Promoting Child Wellbeing

13

Room Boulevard Auditorium
Chair
Andrew McCallum AM, CEO, Association of Children’s Welfare Agencies

8:30
National Framework Symposium
Dr Brian Babington, CEO, Families Australia
Dr Ros Baxter, Group Manager of Families Group, Department of Social Services
Dr Mark Collis, Executive Director, Office for Children, Youth and Family Support in the ACT
Ms Cathy Taylor, Deputy Director-General, Child, Family and Community Services and Southern Operations, QLD Dept of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
Ms Maree Walk, Deputy Secretary, Programs and Service Design, NSW Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Richard Weston, CEO, Healing Foundation

10:05
Concurrent Session 3 10:05–10:45
Room Boulevard Auditorium B1 B2 B3
Chair
Tricia Murray  Lyn Stokker  Simon Schrapel  Anne McLelsh OAM

10:05
Using Wings to Change Practices
Dr Jennifer Cartmel, Griffith University, Menzies Institute of Health QLD
Debbie Miller, Pathways to Resilience Trust
Increasing Higher Educational Aspirations for Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care
Mary McKinnon, Life Without Barriers
The Experiences of Primary Carer Fathers Arrested in Victoria and its Effect on Their Children
Tess Bartlett, Monash University

The Experiences of Primary Carer Fathers Arrested in Victoria and its Effect on Their Children
Tess Bartlett
Monash University

10:25
The Ryde and Northern Beaches Project’s Place Based Approach to Early Intervention in Schools
Anthony Shannon, NSW Dept of Family & Community Services
Rachelle Elphick, Mission Australia
‘Cross-Overs Kids’: Young People in Youth Justice and Child Protection Systems
Prof Rosemary Sheehan, Monash University
Mental Health and Wellbeing of Students – Whose Job Is It Anyway?
Jacqueline Reid, Catholic Education WA
Research Advancing Interdisciplinary Work with Young Children
Christine Gibson, University of South Australia
Enhancing Service Engagement Through Antenatal Screening and Referral for At-Risk Families
Dr Jacqui Beall
Child Protection Service Flinders Medical Centre

10:45
MORNING TEA BREAK

Be in the draw to win an iPad Mini, drawn as a lucky door prize at the closing session of the conference.

lucky door prize
**DAY 2**

**Tuesday 24 May 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Concurrent Session 4</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Presentations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Improving Outcomes for Aboriginal Children and Young People Leaving Care&lt;br&gt;<strong>Anthony Smith</strong> and <strong>Sheena Olsen</strong>&lt;br&gt;Jaanamili/Uniting</td>
<td>Boulevard Auditorium B1</td>
<td><strong>Sue-Anne Hunter</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Prue Warrillow</strong></td>
<td><strong>Creating a Child Safe Sector – One NGO’s Journey</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Robyn Monro Miller</strong>&lt;br&gt;Network of Community Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preventing Youth Homelessness by Creating Hope&lt;br&gt;<strong>Cheryl Hillier</strong>&lt;br&gt;Uniting Communities</td>
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<td>Conversations About Rights and a Children’s Commissioner&lt;br&gt;<strong>Magdelena Madden</strong> and <strong>Sally Chapman</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Council for the Care of Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>The Experiences of Children and Young People With Disability: A Key Informant of Policy and Practice&lt;br&gt;<strong>Winnie Bridie</strong> and <strong>Gwenda Cannard</strong>&lt;br&gt;Children and Young People with Disability Australia</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>A/Prof Geoff Woolcock</strong>&lt;br&gt;Logan Child-Friendly Community Trust</td>
<td><strong>Family Inclusion in OOHC</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Lynette Stoker</strong>&lt;br&gt;Family Action Centre University of Newcastle&lt;br&gt;<strong>Jessica Cocks</strong>&lt;br&gt;Life Without Barriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raising the Bar: Integrated Services for All Families&lt;br&gt;<strong>Lynn Farrell</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Infants Home</td>
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<td>Child Informed Mediation – Ensuring the Voice of the Child is Heard in Mediation&lt;br&gt;<strong>Helen Hunt</strong>&lt;br&gt;FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria</td>
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<td>12:35</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>Improving Outcomes for Aboriginal Children and Young People Leaving Care</td>
<td>SUE-ANNE HUNTER, PRUE WARRILLOW</td>
<td>Anthony Smith and Sheena Olsen, Jaanamili/Uniting</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>Creating a Child Safe Sector – One NGO’s Journey</td>
<td>A/PROF DARYL HIGGINS, DAVID TEMPLEMAN</td>
<td>Robyn Monro Miller, Network of Community Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Preparing Your Agency to Respond to the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>A/PROF DARYL HIGGINS, DAVID TEMPLEMAN</td>
<td>Gail Green and Tunya Petridis, Anglicare WA</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>Implementing over time the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>A/PROF DARYL HIGGINS, DAVID TEMPLEMAN</td>
<td>Dr Tim Moore and Dianne Halloran, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Building Strong Communities with Young Families</td>
<td>DAVID TEMPLEMAN</td>
<td>Karl Brettig, Salisbury Communities for Children</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>Family Inclusion in OOHC</td>
<td>A/PROF DARYL HIGGINS, DAVID TEMPLEMAN</td>
<td>Lynnette Stoker, Family Action Centre University of Newcastle, Jessica Cocks, Life Without Barriers</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>Raising the Bar: Integrated Services for All Families</td>
<td>A/PROF DARYL HIGGINS, DAVID TEMPLEMAN</td>
<td>Lynn Farrell, The Infants Home</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
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<td>Helen Hunt, FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
<td>A/PROF DARYL HIGGINS, DAVID TEMPLEMAN</td>
<td>Join the conversation. #childaware</td>
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#childaware

Join the conversation.
### DAY 2
**Tuesday 24 May 2016**

#### 14:15 - 15:15
**Concurrent Session 5**

**Room:** Boulevard Auditorium B1  
**Chair:** Anne Mcleish OAM  
**Chair:** Christine Gibson

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>14:15</td>
<td>Children in Emergencies – A Journey of Hope</td>
<td>Peta Nichol</td>
<td>Save the Children Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:15</td>
<td>We Put Children First: Life Without Barriers’ Approach to Child Abuse Prevention</td>
<td>Melinda Clarke</td>
<td>Life Without Barriers</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:35</td>
<td>Exploration of a Child and Family Focused Approach to Responding to Child Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>Teena Keane-Hogan and Brent Munro</td>
<td>Parkerville Children and Youth Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:35</td>
<td>A Child’s Perspective: Hearing the Views of Children Who Have Experienced Reunification</td>
<td>Dr Katrina Stratton and Sarah Mitchell</td>
<td>Wanslea Family Services</td>
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<td>14:55</td>
<td>Overcoming Substance Use and Violence Through Relational Practice</td>
<td>Anne Tidyman</td>
<td>Odyssey House Victoria</td>
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<td>14:55</td>
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<td>Dr Menka Tsantefski</td>
<td>Griffith University</td>
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<td>14:55</td>
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<td>Schools Talking About Relationships</td>
<td>Joanna Moss</td>
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<td>FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria</td>
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#### 15:25 - 16:40
**Supporting Young People in Out-of-Home Care to Flourish in Adulthood**

**Panel Facilitator:** Alasdair Roy  
**Panelists:** Cheryl Vardon, Principal Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission  
**Mark Morrissey,** Commissioner for Children, Tasmania  
**Young Experts:** Matthew Bambrick, Adina Gunnis, Brooke

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>16:40</td>
<td>Lucky Door Prize and Close</td>
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**Tracks:**
- Advancing Children’s Development and Wellbeing in the First 1000 Days
- Building Child Safe Organisations and Environments
- Supporting Young People in Out-of-Home Care to Flourish into Adulthood
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<td>Emotional Regulation Skill Development with Primary School Aged Families After Trauma</td>
<td>Sally Walker</td>
<td>FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria</td>
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<td>Parenting Support and Playgroups</td>
<td>Vivienne Cunningham-Smith</td>
<td>Playgroup Australia</td>
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<td>The Parental Regard Approach: an Evaluation at Relationships Australia NSW</td>
<td>Dr Rebecca Gray</td>
<td>Relationships Australia NSW</td>
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<td>‘Success Begins at Home’ – A Home Visiting Early Learning and Parenting Program</td>
<td>Marian Pettit</td>
<td>HIPPY Australia</td>
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<td>Maximising Parental Alliance When Working With Children</td>
<td>Josette Gardiner</td>
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<td>Dr Yvonne Parry</td>
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Opening Address

Barbara Bennett
Deputy Secretary, Families and Communities, Department of Social Services

Barbara Bennett joined the Department of Social Services in September 2013. Prior to joining the Department Barbara was a Deputy Secretary in the Department of Human Services. She worked in DHS and its former agencies since 2008. Barbara’s public service career has included policy, programme management and service delivery in the areas of education, employment, health and safety and industrial relations.

She has been CEO of two government agencies and has extensive experience in leading organisations through periods of change and uncertainty.

Barbara currently leads the Department of Social Services’ Families and Communities Stream, which oversees policy development and programmes in the areas of families, children, family safety, communities and multicultural affairs and settlement services. Barbara also has responsibility for the department’s grants and administered procurement funding.
Keynote Addresses

The Australian Model of the First 1000 Days: Making the World of Difference for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

Professor Kerry Arabena
Director, Indigenous Health Equity Unit, The University of Melbourne

Building child safe organisations and environments

Professor Ross Homel AO
Foundation Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia

Supporting young people in out-of-home care to flourish in adulthood
An expert panel including Children’s Commissioners and young experts

Families Australia Oration
Healing to thrive: building the collective strengths of our families for positive generational change

Ms June Oscar AO
CEO, Marninwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre

National Framework Symposium
A panel representing the National Coalition on Child Safety and Wellbeing, Commonwealth, States and Territories
The Australian Model of the First 1000 Days: Making the World of Difference for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

The Australian Model of the First 1000 Days is an Indigenous-led initiative for vulnerable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and infants, starting at (pre)conception until the infant is aged two.

Through regional integration and implementation, the model aims to support services to assist parents achieve optimum health and wellbeing outcomes for their children.

Informed through a year-long and continuing, nation-wide engagement process engaging research institutions, policy-makers, professional associations and human rights activists with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service delivery organisations, peak bodies and families, the Australian Model of the First 1000 Days broadened beyond the international emphasis of improving nutrition and maternal and child health to include an Indigenous-led holistic and ecological framework.

The Model will be implemented through local governance arrangements between The University of Melbourne, early learning centres, and Aboriginal community health and other organisations with government agencies. This presentation will describe the impacts of when systems work well, and when they fail to adequately address the social, economic and cultural contexts in which people live. Also covered will be the ability of the Model to inform strategy, decision making, programming and implementation of policy by working with families together to value and protect their children.

**Professor Kerry Arabena**

Director, Indigenous Health Equity Unit, The University of Melbourne

Professor Kerry Arabena is Chair for Indigenous Health and Director of the Indigenous Health Equity Unit at The University of Melbourne. A descendent of the Meriam people from the Torres Strait, she has a Doctorate in Human Ecology and a degree in Social Work. She is the Lead Investigator on the Australian Model of the First 1000 Days Study, an interventions based pre birth cohort study designed with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

With an extensive background in public health, administration, community development and research, her work has made significant contributions in areas such as sexual and reproductive health, family violence, gender issues, access and equity, service provision, and harm minimisation. Her professional experience has seen her recognised as an Australian of the Year Finalist in 2010 and recipient of the prestigious JG Crawford Prize for Academic Excellence at Australian National University in 2011. She is a Board Director, author and business owner; a mother and a grandmother with interests in achieving equity for all Australians.
WE PUT CHILDREN FIRST

Every day, Life Without Barriers offer support and care to children. We want each and every one of those children to feel as safe and respected as they should.

Speak to us during the conference to find out more about our work in building safe, stable and nurturing relationships.

T. 1800 WE LIVE (1800 935 483)
W. www.lwb.org.au/childrenfirst

WE
LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS
VE

We all share the responsibility for child safety
CREATE-ing Pathways to Child Wellbeing in Disadvantaged Communities

Children and young people living in economically deprived areas, especially Indigenous children, are more likely than those from more affluent communities to drop out of school, become trapped in inter-generational cycles of poverty and welfare dependence, or get caught up in the child protection or youth justice systems. Despite the best efforts of governments and caring organisations, the gap is not narrowing.

The promise of the collective impact movement is to unite our fragmented services to achieve common goals, but the movement needs to make greater use of rigorous science to realise this promise. Prevention science is built on carefully designed and closely evaluated evidence-based programs, few of which have been implemented by the social and education sectors on a large scale.

The challenge now facing Australia is to build prevention science methods and insights into large scale, sustainable, economically efficient, early prevention delivery systems. This will achieve measurable, ongoing improvements in wellbeing across the life course.

This presentation summarises the methods and achievements of Creating Pathways to Prevention, a program of research and action that addresses this challenge, bringing together the prevention science and collective impact movements. The emphasis is on the prevention of problems before they emerge or become entrenched, consistent with the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children, which emphasises early intervention and prevention.

Professor Ross Homel AO

Foundation Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University

Ross Homel is Foundation Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia. He has served as Director of the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance, was founder and director of the Griffith Institute for Social and Behavioural Research (now the Griffith Social and Behavioural Research College); has served as Head of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice as a Commissioner of the Queensland Criminal Justice Commission; and in the early 2000’s worked with Fiona Stanley and others to establish the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth and its associated ARC research network. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and former member of the Academy executive committee.

Professor Homel has published three monographs and six edited books, as well as more than 150 peer-reviewed papers and numerous high impact government reports. He has won many awards for his research on the prevention of crime, violence and injuries and the promotion of positive development and wellbeing for children and young people in socially disadvantaged communities. His accomplishments were recognised in January 2008 when he was appointed an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AO) “for service to education, particularly in the field of criminology, through research into the causes of crime, early intervention and prevention methods.” In May 2008 he was recognised by the Premier of Queensland as a ‘Queensland Great’; “for his contribution to Queensland’s reputation for research excellence, the development of social policy and justice reform and helping Queensland’s disadvantaged communities.” In December 2008 he was shortlisted for 2009 Australia of the Year, in 2009 he received a Distinguished Service Award for Alumni, Macquarie University; and in 2010 he received the Sellin-Glueck Award from the American Society of Criminology for criminological scholarship that considers problems of crime and justice as they manifest outside the United States.
Supporting young people in out-of-home care to flourish in adulthood

Tuesday, 24 May 2016 • Boulevard Auditorium • 15:00–16:30

Panel Abstract: The way adults conceptualise children and young people has a significant impact on the policies, procedures and legislation adults create to support (and sometimes control) children and young people. It also determines the nature and quality of adult interactions with children and young people.

Despite gains over the last few years, most adults continue to see children and young people as incapable of, or unqualified to, make decisions about their own lives.

Young people will join Children’s Commissioners to explore this inherent power imbalance and the impact it has on the lives of children and young people, including those in care. Discussion will focus on how listening to and respecting the words and ideas of children and young people helps to foster a sense of individual ‘agency’ and being in control of your own life, an important aspect of flourishing in adulthood. Agency, and the capacity to influence events, are not only a basic right, but are important for children and young people’s safety, wellbeing and resilience.

By challenging adults to consider their conceptualisation of children and young people, this session aims to promote children and young people’s decision making ability and identify more collaborative ways of working which recognise children and young people’s capabilities.

Alasdair Roy

Alasdair Roy has worked with children and young people for over 25 years, including in the areas of: human rights; consulting with children and young people; statutory advocacy; care and protection; adolescent mental health; street-based outreach and support; policy development; and with children and young people who sexually offend. Alasdair held the position of ACT Children and Young People Commissioner from 2008-2016, and was an ACT Finalist in the 2014 Australian of the Year Awards for his work promoting and protecting the rights of children and young people. In 2015, Alasdair was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to travel to Iceland, Sweden, and Norway to examine characteristics of Child Safe/Child Friendly policy and practice.

Cheryl Vardon

Principal Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission

Ms Cheryl Vardon joined the QFCC on Monday 12 October 2015 as our Principal Commissioner. Cheryl has had a distinguished career as an educator and is recognised for her leadership in the protection of vulnerable children and young people and for indigenous education. She is an experienced leader of policy implementation and system reform.
Mark Morrissey
Commissioner for Children, Tasmania

Mark has worked for much of his career in the area of children and young people’s services and policy development. He is a committed advocate for young people’s rights. As Commissioner for Children, Mark focuses on the rights and interests of children, and the laws, policies and programs that impact on them.

Matthew Bambrick

Matthew Bambrick is a 20 year old from South East Queensland who by his own admission believes to be mature beyond those years. Matthew has extensive lived experience with the Child Protection System and will confess that he has been through a number of ups and downs during that time. Matthew has recently been supported by both Next Step After Care and the CREATE Foundation Queensland. With this support Matthew has proved to be a talented speaker and recently hosted the Next Step After Care one year celebration. In his own words “my hope is not to be changed but to be the change.”

Adina Gunnis

Adina is 19 years old and lives in Toowoomba and is currently a 2nd year Law student at USQ. At the age of 11 Adina was placed in OOHC and lived with the same foster parents.

Adina’s passion is to use her care experience to help improve the system for other children and young people, to ensure that they have a healthy and happy transition to adulthood.

Brooke

Brooke is 20 years old and a passionate advocate for young people in care throughout Tasmania. Brooke has been involved with the CREATE Foundation since the age of 12 and during this time has become an extremely valued Young Consultant, presenting at several forums, conferences and sector meetings at both State and National levels. Brooke is studying Certificate 3 in aged care, while helping to create positive change within the care system.

If you’re having a hard time, find someone to talk to at oneplace.org.au
The Queensland Government is partnering with peak bodies, service providers, non-government organisations and communities to transform the state’s child and family support system to deliver the best possible outcomes for all Queensland children and their families.

A key part of the transformation is implementing the 10-year reform program recommended by the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry. Through these reforms, our vision is that all Queensland children and young people are cared for, protected, safe and able to reach their full potential.

Find out more
To learn more about the reform program and stay in touch with the latest news and achievements, visit www.qld.gov.au/strongerfamilies and subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter.
Families Australia Oration

Healing to thrive: building the collective strengths of our families for positive generational change

Ms June Oscar AO
CEO, Marninwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre

June Oscar is Chief Executive Officer of Marninwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre and a proud Bunuba woman from the remote town of Fitzroy Crossing. She is a Bunuba language speaker and is considered one of the most outstanding Aboriginal leaders in the Fitzroy Valley, and across Australia. She is a strong advocate and activist for Indigenous Australian languages, social justice, women’s issues, and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Her courage and determination to address the most complex and sensitive issues affecting the lives of Aboriginal Australians is inspirational. She does this with little regard for the immense personal toll that such actions necessitate. Her focus on Aboriginal children, and her determination that we do not sacrifice the health of our children for the so-called ‘right’ to buy full strength take-away alcohol, makes her a role model for all Australia. In 2011, in an article appearing in The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald (Weekend Magazines), June was named as one of the 50 most influential women in the world for her work in improving the lives of those living in remote Aboriginal communities. June has previously held the positions of Deputy Director of the Kimberley Land Council and the first woman to chair the Marra Worra Worra Resource Agency (Fitzroy Crossing). She is a Director on the Boards of Bunuba Films Pty Ltd and Bunuba Pty Ltd. She is the former chair of the Kimberley Language Resource Centre and the Kimberley Interpreting Service. In 1990 June was an appointment of the Federal Government to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Business from the University of Notre Dame, Broome, Western Australia, and is currently writing her PHD. June is a co-founder of the Yiramalay Wesley Studio School and is a Community member of the Fitzroy Valley Futures Governing Committee. In 2012 June was appointed as an Ambassador for Children and Young People by the Western Australian Commissioner for Children and Young People, Michelle Scott. June is a Chief Investigator on the Lililwan Project. In June of 2013 June was awarded an Order of Australia. June was the winner of the Westpac and Financial Review 100 Women of Influence 2013 for Social Enterprise and Not for Profit Category. In 2014 June was awarded the Menzies School of Health Research Medallion for her work with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. In 2015 June was asked to be an Ambassador for the National Organisation for Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.
Healing to thrive: building the collective strengths of our families for positive generational change

In 2007 community enforced alcohol restrictions came into effect, prohibiting the sale of mid and full strength take away alcohol in Fitzroy Crossing. It was an important circuit breaker, reigniting a long fought journey of societal recovery in confronting the effects of intergenerational trauma.

June Oscar AO speaks to this courageous story by explaining the foundational importance of healing. With the restrictions enforced it was clear, a young generation are growing with the physiological and neurological imprints of trauma. The evidence was established, 1 in 5 children have Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and countless others experience early life trauma. June explores the transformative process of healing across working and societal relationships to help us all comprehend, live through, and ultimately overcome the many ramifications of transmitted trauma. It is a process which is infusing and informing the women’s holistic reconstruction agenda and reminding us all why community driven and informed early life interventions are so essential. Their story speaks to how the work of community members and families simultaneously respond to and shape major policy goals set within the rubric of National Frameworks, including Protecting Australia’s Children 2009-2020, and the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children.

Together the women are constructing a healing model at the forefront of 21st century learning and evidence which places children and families at its centre. This is informing national policy frameworks and always challenging them to go further. It is a model with a profound respect for the integration of both Indigenous and Western epistemologies that moves services away from isolated delivery, toward wrap around health and educational supports for all.

This way of working provides an innovative approach to exploring one of the conferences major themes – Building safe organisations and environments for children.

As this model is constructed and positive changes made, June and the women see in the lives of children and families today, a vibrant and healthy future.

INTRODUCTION BY:
The Hon Shannon Fentiman MP
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence; Minister for Communities, Women and Youth; Minister for Child Safety; Member for Waterford

Shannon Fentiman is Queensland’s Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Communities, Women and Youth and Minister for Child Safety.

Shannon is committed to social justice and throughout her career has worked to improve the lives of working people. She has also worked in a voluntary capacity for community groups that support women and families in need.

A critical priority for Shannon is tackling domestic and family violence and violence against women more broadly, and she plays a key role in the Palaszczuk Government’s urgent efforts to end violence.
STUDY WITH US ONLINE

FAMILY STUDIES

THE FAMILY ACTION CENTRE  UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN FAMILY STUDIES
MASTER OF FAMILY STUDIES
RESEARCH HIGHER DEGREES IN FAMILY STUDIES
INDIVIDUAL COURSES IN FAMILY STUDIES AS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* A FEW OPTIONAL COURSES INCLUDE FACE TO FACE COMPONENTS. CALL TO DISCUSS 02 4921 6690

WWW.NEWCASTLE.EDU.AU/RESEARCH-AND-INNOVATION/CENTRE/FAC/ABOUT-US
The NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) develops client-centred programs and service systems designed to break disadvantage and support people to achieve their potential in inclusive communities. FACS provides child protection and out-of-home care programs that support best practice implementation and safeguards for children and young people.

Other prime FACS objectives include:

- building expertise in leading program design and re-design
- implementing large projects such as the Institute for Open Adoption in 2016,
- focusing on holistic person and community centred programs, and
- integrating early intervention programs and providing housing services to support vulnerable children and their families.
National Framework Symposium

Tuesday, 24 May 2016 • Boulevard Auditorium • 08:30–10:00

PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT  Chair: Andrew McCallum AM  Panellists: Dr Brian Babington, Dr Ros Baxter, Dr Mark Collis, Cathy Taylor, Marie Walk, Richard Weston

Andrew McCallum AM  
CEO, Association of Children’s Welfare Agencies

Andrew McCallum is the Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Children’s Welfare Agencies (ACWA), the NSW non-government peak for community organisations working with vulnerable children, young people and their families. He has worked in the community services sector for more than 35 years and is a recipient of the Member of the Order of Australia for his service to the community in a range of leadership roles across the social justice sector. Andrew is a past President of ACOSS, VC OSS and the Child and Family Welfare Association of Australia.

Dr Brian Babington  
CEO, Families Australia

A social change proponent, diplomat and author, Dr Brian Babington has worked for over three decades for stronger communities, families and individuals in Australia and developing countries, particularly in Asia. Since 2005, he has been the CEO of Families Australia. He plays leadership roles in numerous national and international bodies, particularly as convenor of the National Coalition on Protecting Australia’s Children and as a director of a major international child-centred community development agency, Plan Australia.

ABSTRACT: The non-government and research sectors have joined together as the National Coalition for Protecting Australia’s Children to help devise and drive the implementation of the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children. National Coalition Convenor and Families Australia CEO, Dr Brian Babington, will explore the state of play with the Third Action Plan (2015-18) under the National Framework as well as key challenges ahead in realising the National Framework’s vision that all Australian children are safe and well.
Dr Ros Baxter

Group Manager of Families Group, Department of Social Services

Dr Ros Baxter is Group Manager of Families Group in the Australian Government’s Department of Social Services. Her group leads the Government’s work on the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children; manages significant programmes to support children, parents and families; takes the lead on birth, adoption and care policy; and manages federal income management and financial wellbeing interventions.

Ros has worked in social and welfare policy and practice in both Australia and the United Kingdom, and in local, state and federal government. She has been a presiding member of the Social Security Appeals Tribunal, and has also worked as a consultant, providing advice to public and private sector organisations in developing regulation and prosecuting strategic policy.

Ros has degrees in government, social work and law from the University of Queensland, and a PhD in law (welfare reform) from the University of Sydney.

Abstract: The Commonwealth is collaborating with States and Territories and non-government representatives to implement the actions identified in the Third Action Plan. As well as leading work to help young people in out-of-home care thrive in adulthood, the Commonwealth is particularly focused on raising awareness of effective parenting practices in the first 1000 days for a child and on models to better support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities in the early years.

Dr Mark Collis

Executive Director, Office for Children, Youth and Family Support in the ACT

Dr Mark Collis is currently the Executive Director for the Office for Children Youth and Family Support in the ACT. In this role he oversees the Child Protection and Youth Justice systems and the early intervention programs for vulnerable children, young people and their families. Mark was a teacher, psychologist and administrator and has worked across Australia for families for over 30 years. Recently Mark has lead the reforms into the Out of Home Care System in the ACT – Step Up For Our Kids – and the redesign and integration of the Care and Protection and Youth Justice support systems – Child and Youth Protection Service. Mark has participated in many national forums including the National Protecting Australia’s Children Forum and was the chair of the Australian Juvenile Justice Administrators’ Group for over two years.

Abstract: The ACT is focused on implementing reforms that have a strong emphasis on prevention and early intervention, and targeting assistance to those communities that have most contact with the child protection system, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families. This is demonstrated through the implementation of significant reforms to the out of home care and child protection systems as part of A Step Up for Our Kids (Out of Home Care Strategy 2015-2020).

Cathy Taylor

Deputy Director-General, Child, Family and Community Services and Southern Operations, Queensland Government Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Cathy commenced as Deputy Director-General in October 2014 and was previously the Acting Deputy Director-General, Strategic Policy and Programs from November 2013 to September 2014. She has held senior roles in government since 2002, including General Manager, Youth Justice and Youth Development; Executive
Director, Child Safety, Youth and Families Policy and Performance; and Regional Executive Director, Brisbane Region. Prior to joining government, Cathy practised child and family law and was the inaugural director of Women’s Legal Aid in Queensland.

**Abstract:** Queensland’s child and family reforms align closely with the Third Action Plan. Priorities for the Queensland Government include investing in family support to better assist families to care for their children safely at home; improving the life opportunities and outcomes for vulnerable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and families; and introducing new Next Step support services to assist young people to successfully transition to independence.

**Maree Walk**

*Deputy Secretary, Programs and Service Design, NSW Department of Family and Community Services*

Maree Walk is the Deputy Secretary, Programs and Service Design in the NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS). With a focus on service design and delivery to help the most vulnerable, she is well known for collaborating across government and non-government sectors.

FACS is the biggest funder of non-government organisations (NGO) in NSW; funding around 800 NGOs, about $1 billion annually, under nearly 2,000 funding arrangements (excluding its Ageing, Disability and Home Care Division). FACS manages contracting arrangements for about $5.5 billion of housing assets, around 20,000 properties, which are owned or managed by NGOs.

Prior to becoming Deputy Secretary, Maree was the last Chief Executive of Community Services from 2012 to 2014.

**Abstract:** Maree Walk, Deputy Secretary, Programs and Service Design, NSW Department of Family and Community Services will present on the alignment between NSW’s work and the National Framework. Ms Walk will highlight NSW’s achievements to date, cross jurisdictional and service system cooperation. She will also cover issues of innovation shown in ambitions long-term projects on earlier intervention, child protection and out of home care.

**Richard Weston**

*CEO, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation*

Richard is a descendant of the Meriam people of the Torres Strait and has worked in Indigenous affairs for more than 20 years. Richard has been CEO of the Healing Foundation since 2010 and under his leadership the organisation is leading policy development and supporting knowledge creation to ensure governments and community organisations can access quality information about healing and its impact.

He Chairs the National Health Leadership Forum and is a member of The Close the Gap Steering Committee, The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leaders in Mental Health, The Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Advisory Group for Headspace, a member the National Empowerment Project advisory committee and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project. He is also a Board member of Families Australia.

More information about the Healing Foundation can be found at: http://healingfoundation.org.au/about-us/

**Abstract:** The National Framework is a groundbreaking policy initiative that demonstrates how much our nation values the wellbeing of children, particularly those that may be living in circumstances which can cause vulnerability from time to time. It is a commitment by our government to our children. But why is it that when it comes to Indigenous children the indicators are that we are missing the mark? What can be done?
Concurrent Session Abstracts

**Hannah Place – Engaging young mums in care to transition to independence and parenthood**

*Megan Welsh¹*

*Tracy Ingram¹*

*Fatima Krivdic¹*

¹ Centacare Catholic Family Services

This presentation details the attachment-based and trauma-informed intervention that aims to provide positive outcomes for young women and break intergenerational cycles of child protection service involvement in their lives. We will outline the ethos behind our service and highlight a particular case study to illustrate this approach in action.

- Megan Welsh is an executive manager at Centacare with direct experience in establishing residential and outreach programs for young people and families who are homeless and experiencing domestic violence. Megan has worked with staff in these programs to provide attachment, developmental and trauma-informed practice with a child focus.

**Quality assurance frameworks & improving outcomes for children and young people in OOHC**

*Annette Michaux¹*

*Penny Hood²*

¹ Parenting Research Centre

² Family and Community Services

We present on the development in NSW of an outcome-focussed Quality Assurance Framework for children and young people in OOHC. Focusing on young people, the main findings of the project will be summarised. As an Australian ‘first’, this presentation informs those seeking to use system-wide initiatives to improve outcomes in OOHC.

- Annette Michaux is responsible for leading a number of the PRC’s major research, development and implementation projects. She has 16 years’ senior executive experience in child and family services across the government and non-government sectors. Annette is PRC lead on the QAF implementation trial in NSW.

**Prioritising educational outcomes for young people in a residential care setting**

*Cathy Stirling¹*

¹ Uniting Communities

This presentation will discuss the factors that hinder and support a young person’s positive trajectory in education. An evaluation at Uniting and a review of the literature identified 36 actions that can be used by caseworkers and teachers to help keep young people engaged in their education.

- Cathy Stirling works with the Centre for Research, Innovation and Advocacy at Uniting Communities. Cathy’s current research areas include educational outcomes of children in out-of-home care and the prevention of child abuse and neglect. She has over 15 years of experience as a researcher.

**Working out the next step**

*Lucas Moore¹*

*Julia Hayes²*

¹ CREATE Foundation

² CREATE Foundation Young Consultant

The presentation provides an overview of the NEXTSTEP service model, and how CREATE, in partnership with Life Without Barriers, engaged young people with a care experience to not only advocate for but design and develop core elements of the service. A CREATE Young Consultant will co-facilitate the presentation.
Lucas Moore is the Queensland coordinator for CREATE. Lucas has worked with children and young people in out of home care for the last seven years and believes that children and young people’s opinions provide a crucial contribution to the design and delivery of any service.

Who adopts children from out of home care?
Dr Susan Tregeagle1,2
Lynne Moggach1
1 Barnardos Australia
2 University of Sydney

Findings of a study on characteristics of families prepared to adopt damaged children from care. The study covers 26 years of adoption practice in Australia.

Young people with intellectual disability transitioning from out of home care
Jess Burke1
Sarah MacDonal1
1 Community Living Association

Presentation focuses on practice elements that have proved effective in responding to negative life experiences and barriers to a good life faced by young people transitioning from out of home care and perceived to have developmental delay (due to intellectual disability, cognitive disability, mental health or trauma impact).

Jessica Burke is a Social Worker with 12 years’ experience working with people with intellectual disability. She is the Team Leader of ARROS, service working with people with intellectual disability living on society’s fringe. For the past three years, ARROS has also been focusing on young people with disability exiting State Care.

Safeguarding children
Monique Blom1
1 Australian Childhood Foundation

The most effective way to transform an organisation’s capacity to protect children and young people from abuse and exploitation is through a thorough and systematic change management process. The process involves a number of interconnected activities, over four key stages: exploration, preparation, implementation and continuous improvement.

Monique Blom has experience in clinical interventions on issues of child development, child protection, Indigenous service provision and evaluation. She has experience working collaboratively with non-government, government and corporate bodies. Monique has 15 years’ experience, her skills include: strategic policy & program development, implementation and evaluation; stakeholder consultation; project management and clinical intervention.

Family Matters: kids safe in culture not in care
Natalie Lewis1
1 SNAICC

Family Matters is about eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Australia’s child protection systems within a generation. This workshop invites participants to contribute to a vision of fundamental change to address child and family welfare systems that are failing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

Natalie Lewis is a proud descendent of the Kamilaroi and is the CEO of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak. Her professional experience is in the areas of youth justice and child protection, providing direct service, program and policy development and organisational leadership for 20 years.
Beyond compliance: responding to children’s safety needs and concerns in institutional contexts

Dr Tim Moore¹
Prof Morag McArthur¹
Dr Jodi Death²

¹ Australian Catholic University
² Queensland University of Technology

Drawing on a Royal Commission funded project on children’s perceptions of safety within institutional contexts, this workshop will explore ways that strategies might be better developed and implemented around child-safe policies and practices. Participants will be provided with a series of tools developed with children to explore issues of safety and will consider the key themes they identified.

Dr Tim Moore is Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Child Protection Studies. In 2014-16, Tim has managed a project for the Royal Commission focusing on children’s conceptualisations of safety and how to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse in institutional contexts.

E-technology harnessing the potential to build safer communities

Karen Field¹
Sarah Mercer²

¹ Drummond Street Services
² Millipede

This workshop will examine the state of the evidence base for prevention and early intervention in family violence, and explore the use of emerging prevention science and contemporary technologies as a means to engage those at greater risk, with the aim of reducing or ameliorating family violence risk factors as couples transition to parenthood, and at the point of family separation/reformation.

Karen Field is CEO of Drummond Street & Stefpamilies Australia where her team has built a reputation for delivery of evidence-based programs/services, contributing to research, evaluation and policy.

The first 1000 days matter: linking policy, practice and investment to change children’s outcomes

Sue West¹
Dr Dianne Jackson²

¹ Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
² Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth

This workshop, based on the findings to date of a multi-partner national project, will provide participants with a deeper understanding of what the evidence says about why the first 1000 days matter and will explore the implications for policy, practice and investment.

Sue West leads a programme of work that informs early childhood policy, service delivery, professional practice and parenting and includes the award winning Raising Children Network in partnership with the Parenting Research Centre; translation and knowledge exchange projects; training and development activities; service systems innovation projects and policy related research.

Beginning at the beginning in working with infants

Wendy Bunston¹, 2
Karen Glennen³

¹ WB Training & Consultancy
² La Trobe University
³ Colac Area Health

Specialist early intervention programs for infants impacted by family violence and homelessness are few in numbers. This is despite infants being the cohort of children most likely to be present during family violence, and at most risk. This workshop presents on what to do, why and where.

Wendy Bunston is a PhD candidate and associate teacher at La Trobe University. She managed the multi-award winning Addressing Family Violence Program. This program developed specialist group work interventions for children and their mothers. Wendy is a senior clinical social worker, and qualified Family Therapist and Infant Mental Health Clinician.
Supporting at-risk pregnant women and their unborn children: who cares?

Rosemaria Flaherty¹

¹ University of South Australia

An increasing number of children in NSW are born subject to an unborn child high risk birth alert, or their mothers are the subject of pre-birth conferencing. However, very little is known about the experience of the practitioners supporting these women. Preliminary findings of a cross-sectorial staff survey are discussed.

Rosemaria Flaherty manages child protection services for the Northern NSW Local Health District, and is a PhD student with the Australian Centre for Child Protection. Rosemaria’s research examines the role of the unborn child high risk birth alert in connecting at-risk pregnant women to health and social care.

Addressing family violence for children’s development and wellbeing in the first 1000 days

Dr Rebecca Ritte¹
Dr Stacey Panozzo²
Emily Munro-Harrison²
Prof Kerry Arabena²

¹ Onemda Vic Health Koori Health Unit
² Indigenous Health Equity Unit

The Australian interpretation of the 1000 Days movement is being established to have effective supports for families of Indigenous children during critical periods of heightened risk. The model has a focus on the family environment meaning families will be the locus of nation building by raising flourishing Indigenous children.

Dr Rebecca Ritte is an epidemiological Research Fellow at the University of Melbourne. She has a Doctorate in Cancer Epidemiology and over four years of experience focusing on chronic disease outcomes and child mortality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Anticipating and addressing periods of increased risk and vulnerability in the first 1000 days

Dr Nicole Milburn¹

¹ Berry Street

All infants pass through of natural regression where they go backward before making a leap forward. At these times infants have decreased immunity and increased risk of harm, including death. The increased risk can be mitigated by a proactive approach of anticipatory guidance and support in partnership with parents.

Dr Nicole Milburn is a Clinical Psychologist and infant mental health specialist. She has been with the Berry Street Take Two Program since its inception in 2003 and is an expert in the impact of trauma and attachment disruption on infants. She presents nationally and internationally at infant mental health conferences.

How can child welfare and youth-serving organisations keep children safe?

A/Prof Daryl Higgins¹
Prof Keith Kaufman¹
Marcus Erooga³

¹ Australian Institute of Family Studies
² Portland State University
³ University of Huddersfield

Australia is currently focusing on actions that organisations can take to keep children safe. We explore key issues and challenges relating to this issue for policy and practice – and strategies for identifying and addressing vulnerability of individual children, their families, the institutions serving them, and potential offenders.

A/Prof Daryl Higgins is Deputy Director (Research) at the Australian Institute of Family Studies, where he has responsibility for the Institute’s research program and its knowledge translation and exchange functions. The Institute undertakes a wide range of research, evaluation and dissemination projects focusing on policy – and practice-relevant issues affecting families.
Child safe organisations

Mary Kyrios¹

¹ The Centre for Excellence in Child & Family Welfare

This presentation will outline the background that led to new legislation in Victoria regarding the introduction of compulsory child safe standards. The presentation will discuss strategies being undertaken in Victoria to drive cultural change to strengthen organisations’ approaches to preventing, detecting and responding to child abuse.

◆ Mary Kyrios is a social worker with 25 years’ experience in operational, policy, program development and implementation in the Victorian child protection system. Her current role at the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare is to inform member organisations of legislative reform and child safe organisations.

Building organisational capacity to safeguard children: a child safe, friendly, aware health service

Chris Stanilewicz¹

¹ ACT Health

ACT Health’s coordinating framework will create an authorising environment and mandate to build organisational capacity to be child safe, child friendly, and child aware. Drawing on a range of policy levers and evidence to highlight that care and responsibility for children is everyone’s responsibility and not just paediatric services.

◆ Chris Stanilewicz is a senior policy officer in the Women Youth and Child Health Policy Unit in ACT Health, where she is responsible for providing policy analysis and building organisational capacity to meet the health and well-being needs of children and young people in the Canberra region.

Creating healing informed organisations

Lisa Hillan¹

¹ Healing Foundation

Much trauma has been experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as a result of colonisation. Creating Healing Environments that are trauma informed is creating renewed social and emotional wellbeing.

◆ Lisa Hillan is a Social Worker with over 20 years’ experience working with vulnerable communities. For over 15 years, Lisa has worked in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations supporting program development. Since 2010 Lisa has been Programs Director at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation.

Utilising evidence based, soft entry practices to build child safe environments.

A/Prof Kym Macfarlane¹,²
Charmaine Stubbs²

¹ Griffith University
² The Salvation Army

This paper focuses on research undertaken as part of The Salvation Army Griffith University Knowledge Partnership. The research centres on work at the Family Place - a drop in centre in Logan, Queensland, where researchers are working to build an evidence base for soft entry, universal, early intervention and prevention practice.

◆ A/Prof Kym Macfarlane works in academia and child and family studies. Her research work spans the areas of soft entry, universal, early intervention and prevention and broadly, work with children 0-18 years and their families. Kym currently works across university and community services.
Creating preventative systems for children

Imogen Wall
Angela Southwell

ARACY

The Common Approach is a flexible framework to help all professionals identify child and family needs and act early. ARACY and the SA government are piloting a systems-based approach for sustainable preventive practice across education settings. This paper will outline the Approach and the pilot experience.

Imogen Wall has a background in social research, specialising in developing wellbeing and progress and measurement frameworks. She recently joined ARACY to develop and provide training in The Common Approach, an adaptable, holistic, strengths-based approach for practitioners working in partnership with children and families to improve children’s wellbeing.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early years learning: foundations for the future

Geraldine Atkinson

SNAICC

Major reforms in process for Australia’s early childhood education and care sector will see services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities transitioned to a mainstream funding model. This presentation addresses implications for the capacity of the sector to advance educational opportunity and wellbeing for future generations.

Geraldine Atkinson is a proud Bangarang/Wiradjuri woman who is the Deputy Chairperson (Early Childhood) of SNAICC and President of the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc. (VAEAI). A recognised leader in Koorie education, Geraldine is also chairperson of Lulla’s Multi-functional Aboriginal Children’s Service and Batdja Aboriginal Preschool in Shepparton.

Keeping the children in the picture

Marg D’Arcy

EACH Social and Community Health

This paper will present the learnings from Little Sunbeams, designed to address the developmental needs of children and strengthen parenting capacity for women and their children escaping family violence and in crisis or transitional housing. It is an example of collaboration across specialist family violence services and community health.

Marg D’Arcy has been the Child and Family Services Manager at EACH for eight years, focusing on services which build safety and capacity for children and families. Prior to that her career was built around policy and services’ responses to women and their children who had experienced violence for over 30 years.

An intensive early education intervention for at risk children and families

Dr Dave Vicary

Children’s Protection Society

The CPS Early Years Centre for vulnerable children and families offers a unique, holistic, multidisciplinary program providing early-years education/care for children (0 to 5 years) and families living with complex needs. The Centre provides a safe place for families and their children and the program has delivered outstanding outcomes.

Dr Dave Vicary has extensive clinical, policy, executive management, research and evaluation experience across sectors including government, resource, health, education and youth welfare. Dave is the Executive Director, Operations at the Children’s Protection Society and is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Psychology and Speech Pathology at Curtin University.
Using wings to change practices

Dr Jennifer Cartmel¹ ²
Debbie Miller³

¹ Menzies Institute of Health QLD
² Griffith University
³ Pathways to Resilience Trust

This paper reports about the evaluation of an initiative to nurture children’s wellbeing. WINGS: Early Years 0-5 years. It is strengths based approach and encourages educators to look for, and helps to raise children’s awareness of their strengths and capabilities through awareness of the impact of interactions and communication.

Dr Jennifer Cartmel is a senior lecturer in the School of Human Services and Social Work. She has been involved in research projects focussing on workforce development in the children’s services sector. Her research interests include children’s wellbeing and many facets of outside school hours care services.

The Ryde and Northern Beaches project’s place-based approach to early intervention in schools

Anthony Shannon¹
Rachelle Elphick²

¹ NSW Department of Family & Community Services
² Mission Australia

The Ryde and Northern Beaches Project’s are place-based, community of schools and youth services approaches to early intervention, using population screening, flexible practice frameworks and youth-focused, family-centred case management, to address risk, promote well-being and resilience in young people. The projects demonstrate co-design, collective impact, and integrated service delivery.

Increasing higher educational aspirations for children and young people in out-of-home-care

Mary McKinnon¹

¹ Life Without Barriers

Reach is a two month pilot project, showcasing cross-sector collaboration, led by Life Without Barriers. The project is underpinned by activities focused on providing opportunities to young people to increase their educational aspirations and their capacity and confidence to participate in higher education and as a result flourish into adulthood.

Mary McKinnon joined Life Without Barriers in 2013 after thirty years’ experience ranging across disability, child, youth and family services as a practitioner and manager. Mary previously held the position of Director of Statutory and Forensic Services Design along with many other senior positions within the Victorian Department of Human Services.

“Cross-over kids”: young people in youth justice and child protection systems

Prof Rosemary Sheehan¹

¹ Monash University

Children and young people from the child protection system are over-represented in the youth justice system. This Victorian study surveys children and young people, from 12 to 17 years, to identify what factors contribute to their vulnerability to entry to the youth justice system and what offers better intervention.
Prof Rosemary Sheehan works in the Department of Social Work, Monash University. She has 17 years’ experience as a Dispute Resolution Convenor in the Victorian Children’s Court and is a recent Member of the Victorian Child Death Review Committee. She teaches mental health for social work programs, co-coordinating the Research Degrees and Forensic Studies programmes.

The experiences of primary carer fathers arrested in Victoria and its effect on their children

Tess Bartlett

1 Monash University

This paper provides new insights into the experiences of primary carer fathers and their children at the point of arrest in Victoria. It examines the extent to which a father’s role as a primary carer is acknowledged and responded to by the police and how their children’s needs are met.

Tess Bartlett is a PhD candidate at Monash University researching the experiences of primary carer fathers and their children at arrest, sentencing, and imprisonment. Tess has worked as a research assistant on a number of projects at Monash University and is currently the Managing Director of the Imprisonment Observatory.

Mental health and well-being of students: whose job is it anyway?

Jacqueline Reid

1 Catholic Education WA

The Student Engagement, Mental Health and Wellbeing in WA Catholic Schools Audit was conducted in response to formal and informal feedback from schools about the impact of students with mental health issues. The audit was considered an important way of receiving feedback from schools about current needs of students and the role of schools in supporting their mental health and well-being.

Jacqueline Reid has worked in disability/mental health in Australia and UK. In WA, Ms Reid was a Principal, Consultant (Inclusive Education); Manager, Disabilities; Consultant (Mental Health), in the UK, as Educational/Developmental Psychologist. In Jacqueline’s current role in Catholic Education, she leads Psychology/Disability teams in strategic/operational support.

Enhancing service engagement through early antenatal screening and referral for at risk families

Dr Jacqui Beall1
Alice Steeb2
Naomi Guiver1

1 Child Protection Service, Flinders Medical Centre
2 Child and Family Health Service Women’s and Children’s Health Network

This study aims to follow the journey of a cohort of infants from their mother’s first antenatal hospital presentation through their transition to akey community based health service, Child and Family Health Service, with a focus on the effectiveness of referral pathways, engagement with services, and improving service provision.

Dr Jacqui Beall is the Director of the Child Protection Service at Flinders Medical Centre, SA. She has primarily worked with high risk families across both Federal and State jurisdictions with a focus on assessment and early intervention. Her PhD studies focussed on intergenerational transmission of maternal trauma.

Research advancing interdisciplinary work with young children

Christine Gibson

1 Australian Centre for Child Protection, University of South Australia

An overview of a national research project that involves four universities, an institute and a child care agency. It aims to develop both an interdisciplinary educational framework to inform higher education curriculum and a common language for interdisciplinary professionals working with young children and their families.

Christine Gibson has significant experience in conducting and managing research activities for a large child welfare agency. She has an extensive background working within various community legal centres and teaching socio-legal practice to Social Work students. Recent research includes development of child and family sensitive practice along with several evaluations.
Improving outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people leaving care

Anthony Smith\textsuperscript{1,2}  
Sandi Sharp\textsuperscript{1,2}  
\textsuperscript{1} Jaanimili  
\textsuperscript{2} Uniting

The Aboriginal Aftercare State-wide Service started in May 2015 is a new program run by Jaanimili dedicated to providing support to Aboriginal young people leaving care across NSW. This talk explains the program and the need for greater supports of Aboriginal children and young people in aftercare programs.

Anthony Smith has worked with Aboriginal young people across disability, social housing and early intervention programs over the past 17 years. Anthony is a Project Manager at Jaanimili and currently manages the AASS program.

Preventing youth homelessness by creating hope

Cheryl Hillier\textsuperscript{1}  
\textsuperscript{1} Uniting Communities

TYS prevents youth homelessness for 75% of the families we work with. We challenge young people, their family and services not to take the ‘easier path’ of an independent income and homelessness accommodation for a young person, but rather we generate hope and support families to remain living together.

Cheryl Hillier is the Service Manager of Therapeutic Youth Services and has worked to increase the program’s capacity to prevent young people becoming homeless, through counselling and the Rubys reunification service. Cheryl has a Masters of Social Work and has worked with young people at risk of homelessness for 12 years.

Conversations about rights and a children’s commissioner

Magdelena Madden\textsuperscript{1}  
Sally Chapman\textsuperscript{1}  
\textsuperscript{1} The Council for the Care of Children

The UNCRC gives children and young people a right to express their views about matters that affect them and to have their views respected and taken into account. 1654 young South Australians aged 4-18 years participated in conversations about rights and a proposed Commissioner for Children and Young People.

Magdelena Madden is the Principal Consultant with the Council for the Care of Children in South Australia and an advocate for the rights, interests and social inclusion of children and young people. She promotes their voices and works to make them more visible as valued and contributing citizens.

The experiences of children and young people with disability: a key informant of policy and practice

Winnie Bridie\textsuperscript{1}  
Gwenda Cannard\textsuperscript{1}  
\textsuperscript{1} Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA)

This presentation will explore how critical learnings from the direct experiences of children and young people with disability should inform the definition and practice of child safe organisations.

Winnie Bridie is a policy officer at CYDA. CYDA is the national representative organisation for children and young people with disability aged 0-25 years. CYDA provides a link between the direct experiences of children and young people with disability and their families to federal government and other key stakeholders.
Raising the bar: integrated services for all families
Lynn Farrell¹

¹ The Infants Home

This workshop examines the role of working across disciplines and within an integrated model to engage and sustain families and build children's capacity. Integrated ECEC as a platform for seamless entry and a protective factor for children will be discussed and its role within early intervention and prevention discovered.

Lynn Farrell has been working with young children and families for over 30 years. She is currently the integrated services manager at The Infants Home and values the principles of children’s rights and social justice. Her work with children and families is founded on inclusive and strength based practices.

Child informed mediation – ensuring the voice of the child is heard in mediation
Helen Hunt¹

¹ FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria

FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria has developed Child Informed Mediation to ensure children have a voice in the mediation process. Child Counsellors work with children and their families to ensure the child is heard in a safe environment and workable parenting arrangements are in the best interest of the child.

Helen Hunt is Clinical Member of the Victorian Association of Family Therapists who works with children and young people in her role as a Child Consultant and Child Counsellor. She has been with FMC Mediation and Counselling for six years.

Creating a child safe sector – one NGO’s journey
Robyn Monro Miller¹

¹ Network of Community Activities

As the peak body for OSHC services in NSW, Network was confronted in the wake of the Royal Commission to support the OSHC sector improve their child safe practices. Let us take you on that journey – the challenges, strategies, resources and outcomes.

Robyn Monro Miller is the CEO of Network of Community Activities. ‘Network’ has a long history of advocacy for children. Robyn has advocated at State, National and international level for the past 20 years and is Chair of the National Outside School Hours Association and Vice President of the International Play Association.

Family inclusion in OOHC
Lynette Stoker¹
Jessica Cocks²

¹ Family Action Centre University of Newcastle
² Life Without Barriers

This interactive workshop will focus on challenges and strategies to improve family inclusion for children in OOHC. Children and young people in care can have a positive relationship with their family even if they don’t live together. Family inclusion is more than formal “contact”.

Lyn Stoker teaches in the Master of Family Studies. She is a social worker with experience in Government and with non-government organisations and has a strong interest in out-of-home care, trauma informed practice, developing support for families. She is especially interested in the voices of children and young people.

Preparing your agency to respond to the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse
Gail Green¹
Tunya Petridis¹

¹ Anglicare WA

The Royal Commission’s findings are likely to make changes to daily work in child focussed agencies. This workshop provides an opportunity to understand the issues raised and to consider auditing your agency in the light of this knowledge whilst ensuring that child safety stays at the forefront of the service.

Gail Green is a professional social worker with forty years’ experience working with child and adult survivors of abuse and neglect. In addition Gail has worked with offenders; in her own private practice, and in consulting and training. Her current position helps survivors connect with the Royal Commission.
Walking the talk of collective impact: lessons from Logan Together and Go Goldfields

A/Prof Geoff Woolcock¹
Sharon Fraser²

¹ Logan Child-Friendly Community Trust
² Go Goldfields

While collective impact approaches to early intervention continue to attract increasing attention, there remain limited opportunities to share lessons learnt. With both the Logan Together and Go Goldfields collective impact initiatives now underway, this workshop will compare and contrast key issues and challenges in the implementation of both establishment phases.

Geoff Woolcock is Wesley Mission Brisbane’s Manager of Research & Strategy and an Adjunct Associate Professor at QUT and Griffith University. He is particularly interested in building child-and youth-friendly communities. He is a board director of the Australian National Development Index (ANDI), Logan Child-Friendly Community Trust and Brisbane Housing Company.

Building strong communities with young families

Karl Brettig¹

¹ Salisbury Communities for Children

How can we build stronger communities that enhance children’s development and wellbeing through early intervention and prevention? This workshop will explore approaches with elements including family activity centres, building caring communities and providing the scale and intensity of services that result in the supported becoming supporters.

Karl Brettig is manager of Salisbury Communities for Children. Their initiatives include a family centre, an innovative parent and child playtime and a wellbeing classroom concept. He co-edited ‘Building Integrated Connections for Children their Families and Communities’ recently edited ‘Building Stronger Communities with Children and Families’.

Frameworks and tools for having meaningful conversations with families

Dr Tim Moore¹
Dianne Halloran¹

¹ Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

This interactive workshop will focus on ways of engaging families, especially those experiencing challenges. It will explore the fundamentals of relationship building, and will describe tools for having meaningful conversations with parents about concerns they may have about psychosocial factors affecting family functioning and/or about children’s development.

Dr Tim Moore is a Senior Research Fellow at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute. He heads a small team with responsibility for monitoring, reviewing and synthesising research literature on a wide range of topics relating to child development, family functioning and service systems.
Children in emergencies – a journey of hope

Peta Nichol¹
Susan Davie¹

¹ Save the Children Australia

Children are routinely overlooked when it comes to emergency management planning. Save the Children Australia addresses this in two ways – firstly, we help communities plan for children’s needs and secondly, we provide safe play spaces and services for children impacted by natural disasters and emergencies.

Peta Nichol is Queensland Program Manager for Save the Children Australia. She has 25 years’ experience in program design, delivery and management. Qualifications in psychology and direct youth work and family support work experience enables Peta to oversee Save the Children Australia’s programs throughout Queensland, including in the remote areas of Doomadgee, Normanton and Mornington Island.

Overcoming substance use and violence through relational practice

Anne Tidyman¹
Dr Menka Tsantefski²

¹ Odyssey House Victoria
² Griffith University

The children of substance-affected parents are not only exposed to problematic use of alcohol or other drugs; they are also more likely to experience family violence, as well as violence that is more severe, than other children. This presentation outlines a multifaceted approach to protecting children by helping their mothers.

Anne Tidyman has a background in nursing, public housing, community development, out-of-home care and public advocacy. She has volunteered and worked in the community sector for the past 15 years with a special interest in working with vulnerable communities. Anne is Manager, Kids in Focus, at Odyssey House Victoria.

Exploration of a child and family focused approach to responding to child sexual abuse

Teena Keane-Hogan¹
Brent Munro¹

¹ Parkerville Children and Youth Care

Discussion of the Multi-agency Investigation and Support Team (MIST) responding to child sexual abuse. The MIST team utilises a community based child and family friendly space, to co-locate their integrated service team. Environment, collaboration and a family systems approach are three key strengths of the model.

Teena Keane-Hogan has 30 years’ experience in Australia and Ireland as a Case Manager working with Children/Families of DV, in Fostering and Family Support, and with Children in Care. Teena is currently a Child and Family Advocate with Multi-agency Investigation Support Team and holds a BA in Applied Social Science (Ireland).

We put children first: Life Without Barriers’ approach to child abuse prevention

Melinda Clarke¹

¹ Life Without Barriers

Based on situational crime prevention, We Put Children First is Life Without Barriers’ approach to the prevention of child abuse. The key messages in We Put Children First are extended guardianship, acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in relation to children, and speaking up about child safety concerns.

Melinda Clarke has worked for Life Without Barriers for 10 years in operational management and practice and quality roles, and is now the National Manager Quality of Care. Melinda also worked for NSW government in child protection and disability. In Melinda’s current role, she is responsible for leading child-safe initiatives.
A child’s perspective: hearing the views of children who have experienced reunification

Dr Katrina Stratton¹
Sarah Mitchell¹

¹ Wanslea Family Services

Traditionally, child and family services have sought feedback from the parents with whom we work; but what about the voices and views of the children we work with? Wanslea undertook research to access children’s voices regarding their experience of service delivery in the Reunification Program. These findings are shared.

Dr Katrina Stratton has had social work experience as practitioner, researcher, consultant and educator in the health, child protection, university and not-for-profit sectors. In particular, Katrina has extensive practice and research history with vulnerable children and families. Katrina is the Coordinator of Research and Evaluation at Wanslea.

Schools talking about relationships

Joanna Moss¹
David Cooke¹

¹ FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria

The FMC ‘STAR Program’ aims for everyone to live in safe and respectful environments that enable children to thrive. “It takes a village to raise a child” approach, FMC has developed and implemented ‘STAR’ (Students Talking About Relationships). STAR is an all-inclusive, integrated and fully aligned program embedded in schools.

Joanna Moss has developed and implemented successful Youth Therapeutic and Education Programs in diverse community settings for over 20 years. An award winning teacher and welfare worker, Joanna is an innovator and works passionately to empower young people. Her experience includes case management, welfare coordination, youth worker and Asylum Seeker coordination.

Emotional regulation skill development with primary school aged families after trauma

Sally Walker¹

¹ FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria

Developing mental health literacy and emotional regulation skills in primary school aged families. Use of creative tools and mindfulness skills have been effective in strengthening children's ability to self-identify emotional needs and self soothe in circumstances of distress.

Sally Walker has worked in child, youth and family health and the welfare sector for 20 years across statutory and legal programs, to early intervention and health promotion. Her background is psychology with post graduate in adolescence and forensic behaviour.

The parental regard approach: an evaluation at Relationships Australia NSW

Dr Rebecca Gray¹
Amelia Wheeler¹
Bill Hewlett¹

¹ Relationships Australia NSW

An evaluation of a style of family dispute resolution, which emphasises the therapeutic alliance, indicated improved outcomes for parental conflict. In this presentation, we reflect upon the implications of our findings, as well as the complexity of managing domestic and family violence, and challenges associated with separated parents re-partnering.

Rebecca Gray is an experienced research/practitioner who coordinates the research program at Relationships Australia NSW. Monitoring internal evaluations for program and workforce development, Rebecca is particularly interested in the clinical encounter and gathering client feedback on services with a focus on domestic and family violence and trauma.
Maximising parental alliance when working with children

Josette Gardiner¹

¹ FMC Mediation and Counselling Victoria

The strength and quality of relationships between parents is fundamental to the development of children’s brain architecture, function and capacity for resilience. Children’s brains are impacted by experience and the emotional environment in which they live. Consistent, positive parental alliance is critical for optimal child mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Josette Gardiner is a specialist child and youth counsellor in the federal Supporting Children After Separation Program (SCASP). She works with families and children, helping them harness their strengths to create positive change and better relationships. Josette has a particular interest in the effects of trauma and the developing brain.

‘Success begins at home’ – a home visiting early learning and parenting program

Marian Pettit¹

¹ HIPPY Australia

HIPPY (Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters) is a two-year, home-based early learning and parenting program for families with young children. It empowers parents and carers to be their child’s first teacher, helping children to succeed at school. HIPPY operates in 100 vulnerable communities across Australia delivering to over 4,300 families per year.

Vivienne Cunningham-Smith is General Manager of Playgroup Australia and has over 30 years’ experience in the early years and primary health sectors. Viv established one of the first integrated early years children’s family services in NSW and has extensive experience in child and family practice.

Parenting support and playgroups

Vivienne Cunningham-Smith¹
Anne Michaux²

¹ Playgroup Australia
² Parenting Research Centre

Parents matter and supporting their parenting in the first 1000 days is critical to achievements in the child and family, early years and educational sectors. The Parenting Research Centre and Playgroup Australia explore the evidence in relation to playgroup as a central platform of the first 1000 days.

Vivienne Cunningham-Smith is General Manager of Playgroup Australia and has over 30 years’ experience in the early years and primary health sectors. Viv established one of the first integrated early years children’s family services in NSW and has extensive experience in child and family practice.

Improving outcomes for infants whose mothers have postnatal depression and anxiety

Dr Yvonne Parry¹
A/Prof Julian Grant¹
Craig Bradbrook²

¹ Flinders University
² UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide

Programs that directly address depression, anxiety and attachment for mothers with perinatal depression improve depression and anxiety by 50 per cent. The use of early detection, prevention and intervention programs for parents and children has the potential to improve life course outcomes for infants and children.

Yvonne Parry has led research projects working with nationally and internationally renowned researchers in the area of vulnerable children; early childhood development; and vulnerable families’ access to health. Yvonne has provided mixed methods research skills to a number of research projects from a social justice framework.
Resource Abstracts

Listening to the voices of children who have witnessed family violence

Nell Kuilenburg

Safe from the Start is an award winning, evidence-based, family violence training & resource tool-kit informed by action research; UTAS/Swinburne Universities; States of Mind, Dr E.Bell, UTAS; Safe from the Start, Dr A.Spinney, Swinburne. The toolkit provides workers with skills to engage and listen to the voices of children who have witnessed family violence.

Nell Kuilenburg has 25 years’ experience in working in development and research, and designed the award-winning Safe from the Start project in partnership with UTAS/Swinburne Universities, to address the effect of family violence on young children and how workers can engage with, and listen to, the voices of children.

Winangay – stronger ways of working with aboriginal children and families

Karen Menzies

Winangay Resources specialise in developing Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal resources that strengthen kids and families. Resources blend visual and written resources for kinship and foster care assessment and reviews, foster care, and social emotional wellbeing. Integrating a positive strength based views of families and trauma principles, they have been identified by the senate enquiry as best practice.

Karen Menzies is an Aboriginal woman from the Wonnaruwa people in the Hunter Valley and is a lecturer with the Wollotuka Institute at the University of Newcastle. Karen was the social worker on the Bringing them Home Report team. Her social work practice focuses on ways that build the capacity of service providers so that their strengths, resources, skills, and competencies enhance effective service delivery and quality human services programs.

Poster Displays

Child focused practice online: changing paradigms and building capacity

Deanna Rohrsheim

Child Focused Practice Online: An Introduction to the Homelessness Sector has been developed by the Australian Institute of Social Relations. Funded through the National Affordable Housing Agreement, this unique, free and interactive online program provides workers with the opportunity to learn about the consequences of homelessness and trauma on children.

Deanna Rohrsheim, spending three years as Team Leader of Together 4 Kids, has been instrumental in creating and delivering a unique workforce development program: Child Focused Practice Online: An introduction to the homelessness sector. Deanna holds a Graduate Certificate in Developmental Trauma from the Australian Childhood Foundation.

Evolve Therapeutic Services: children in out-of-home care with complex mental health problems

Kathy Eadie

This study evaluated Evolve Therapeutic Services, a collaborative wrap-round model of care in combination with a flexible intervention approach for children and young people in out-of-home care presenting with complex and extreme behavioural and mental health problems. Findings provide good evidence for the effectiveness of the therapeutic intervention program.

Kathy Eadie is a registered psychologist that has conducted research and evaluation activities in health and social research over the past 20 years in government and non-government settings. She has presented at conferences and produced several papers for peer reviewed journals.
**Tough Road Home**

Lynn Casey

Tough is being from a CALD background often with no family in Australia and academically, socially and developmentally behind your peers. This is the starting point for many of the young people and in particular the one referred to in this paper and how they overcome these disadvantages and become productive members of society.

- Lynn Casey is a social worker overseeing Youth Programs in the Inner West of Sydney for Barnardos Australia and has worked in this area for over 20 years. Her qualifications are BSW. Hons Mast Soc Admin.

**A whole of systems approach to home-based, single session family therapy**

Adrian Harris

This poster will provide an overview of the Early Matters Program at Relationships Australia Victoria, combining early intervention and primary prevention services with children and their families as a whole of systems approach to mental health promotion and family violence prevention.

- Adrian Harris is a clinical supervisor and program coordinator of the Early Matters Program at Relationships Australia Victoria. As a social worker and family therapist Adrian has extensive experience in working with children and families in both clinical settings and in group based / primary prevention services.

**Dads4Kids – a path to reconnection**

Jen Nield

Dads4Kids provides an experiential overview of a play-based program, designed to assist fathers who have successfully completed a behaviour change program to re-establish healthy family relationships. Delegates will gain an understanding of assessment and support processes which underpin the program.

- Jen Nield has a Masters in clinical family therapy and has worked extensively in the family violence field as a men’s behaviour change program facilitator, family safety worker, adolescent violence against parents case worker and has run post trauma support groups for women.

**The role of community development approaches in the first 1000 days**

Teresa Hutchins

The poster will draw on an evaluation of community development project models used by World Vision Internationally in the first 1000 days of a child’s life and discuss how these project models have been adapted, building on local strengths and protective factors, in ten different remote Aboriginal communities across Australia.

- Teresa Hutchins is Manager, Program Development and Effectiveness World Vision Australia. She has conducted many participatory action research projects and established several Early Childhood Care and Development programs with remote Indigenous communities. She has also published two text books and several journal articles based on her work in early childhood.

**Children and family centres in remote communities**

Peta Nichol

In the remote Indigenous communities of Doomadgee and Mornington Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria of North Queensland, the Dumajji and Ngakulwen Nyerrwe Children and Family Centres are providing culturally strong and community driven integrated services to improve health and development outcomes for Indigenous children from conception, birth and beyond.

- Peta Nichol has 25 years’ experience in program design, delivery and management. As Queensland Program Manager, Peta’s qualifications in psychology and direct youth work and family support work experience, enable her to oversee Save the Children Australia’s programs throughout Queensland, including in the remote areas of Doomadgee, Normanton and Mornington Island.
Sponsors and Exhibitors

MAJOR SPONSOR

Department of Social Services

The Department of Social Services (DSS) is the Australian Government’s lead agency in the development and delivery of social policy and is working to improve the lifetime wellbeing of people and families in Australia.

DSS’ policies and services respond to need across people’s lives – looking after families, children and older people; providing a safety net for people who cannot fully support themselves; enhancing the wellbeing of people with high needs, assisting people who need help with care; and supporting a diverse and harmonious society.

DSS aims to support people and families to participate economically and socially in Australian society, while encouraging independence and participation.

Families Australia

Families Australia is a national, peak, not-for-profit organisation that strives to improve the wellbeing of Australian families, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised. We do this by providing policy advice to the Australian Government and Parliament on behalf of more than 800 member organisations around Australia.

familiesaustralia.org.au
childaware.org.au
nfw.org.au
Protecting children and empowering families to do their best for their children are not just matters for government; they are whole of community responsibilities.

The Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services is partnering with peak bodies, service providers, government and non-government agencies, and communities, to transform the state’s child and family support system to deliver the best possible outcomes for all Queensland children and their families.

A key part of the transformation is implementing the 10-year reform program recommended by the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry, which is focused on:

- supporting families earlier with the right services at the right time
- working better with families who come in contact with the child protection system
- improving out-of-home care experiences for children and young people who cannot safely live at home, and improving their transition to independence
- better meeting the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families
- delivering quality services for Queenslanders through a skilled, client-focused workforce.

In working collaboratively to implement these and other reforms, it is our vision that all Queensland children and young people are cared for, protected, safe and able to reach their full potential.

www.communities.qld.gov.au

Life Without Barriers is a national not-for-profit organisation working in more than 300 communities across Australia.

At Life Without Barriers we help families to provide safe and supportive homes for their children and young people. Where a child or young person cannot live at home, we deliver out-of-home options such as foster or residential care to achieve positive outcomes for children, young people and their families, with an emphasis on building safe, stable and nurturing relationships.

Every day, Life Without Barriers offers support and care to children. We want each and every one of them to feel as safe and respected as they should. At Life Without Barriers, the wellbeing of children is our greatest concern. Ensuring children are well cared for, supported and protected from sexual and physical abuse is an absolute, non-negotiable priority.

We Put Children First is our stance on child safety and wellbeing, and includes guidelines about what constitutes illegal, unacceptable, and concerning behaviour in relation to children. Everyone must act in a way that prioritises the wellbeing of children at all times.

The organisation is also focusing on the development of opportunities for care leavers. We recognise the importance of successful transition from care, and how difficult this step is for many young people. We are committed to ensuring young people are supported by LWB and other community services so that they successfully transition to adulthood and can pursue happy and rewarding lives.

For more information, go to www.lwb.org.au
NSW DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) develops client-centred programs and service systems designed to break disadvantage and support people to achieve their potential in inclusive communities. FACS provides child protection and out-of-home care programs that support best practice implementation and safeguards for children and young people.

Other prime FACS objectives include:

- building expertise in leading program design and re-design
- implementing large projects such as the Institute for Open Adoption in 2016,
- focusing on holistic person and community centred programs, and
- integrating early intervention programs and providing housing services to support vulnerable children and their families.

QUEENSLAND FAMILY AND CHILD COMMISSION

QFCC promotes the safety, wellbeing and best interests of children and young people and improves the child protection system. We speak to the community, are informed by the sector and must maintain both the confidence of the government and the community in the quality of services for vulnerable children.
At Relationships Australia we believe healthy relationships are essential for the wellbeing of children, families and communities.

Our services include counselling, mediation, dispute resolution, relationship and parenting skills education, community support, employee assistance programs and professional training.

Relationships Australia services are available in more than 100 centres across the country.

www.relationships.org.au  1300 364 277

Playgroup Australia is a not-for-profit organisation that was established in 1984 as the national representative body for our members, the State and Territory Playgroup Organisations (STOs).

Playgroup has a long and credible history as being one of Australia’s largest civil society movements. The playgroup movement has been providing and supporting playgroups for more than 40 years through volunteerism and the outreach work of each STO.

Playgroup Australia plays a strong advocacy role in promoting the values, principles, positions and ethics of the playgroup movement, emphasising its critical role in civil society.

ACWA is the NSW non-government peak body representing the voice of community organisations working with vulnerable children, young people and their families. We work with our members, partners, government and non-government agencies and other peak bodies to bring about positive systemic reform that will deliver better outcomes to the lives of children and young people, including those living in out-of-home care.
CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS

COMMISSIONER FOR CHILDREN, TASMANIA

The Tasmanian Commissioner for Children and Young people has a primary role as advocate, focusing on health and wellbeing for all Tasmania children up to the age of 15 years.

WINANGAY RESOURCES

Winangay Resources specialise in developing Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal resources that strengthen kids and families. Resources blend visual and written resources for kinship and foster care assessment and reviews, foster care, and social emotional wellbeing. Integrating a positive strength based views of families and trauma principles, they have been identified by the senate enquiry as best practice.

1800RESPECT

The 1800RESPECT National Sexual Assault, Domestic Family Violence Counselling Service commenced on 1 October 2010 in the form of a phone counselling service. In June 2011, the website www.1800RESPECT.org.au was launched which enabled consumers to access online counselling, information and resources about sexual assault and family or domestic violence (SA/FDV).

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF FAMILY STUDIES

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) is the Australian Government’s key research body in the area of family wellbeing. AIFS conducts original research to increase understanding of Australian families and the issues that affect them.
EXHIBITORS

CHURCHES OF CHRIST CARE
Churches of Christ Care is one of Australia’s largest and most diverse not-for-profit organisations. With the support of over 3,200 staff, 800 foster and kinship carers and over 1,200 volunteers, we are active in the areas of early childhood care; children, youth and families services; community housing; retirement living; home care; and residential aged care.

DRUMMOND STREET SERVICES
Drummond Street Services is a 128 year old not-for-profit, family service organisation based in Carlton, inner Melbourne, with branches in Melbourne’s Northern and Western growth corridors. Offering services and programs informed by a public health approach, we place a strong emphasis on research, evaluation, policy advocacy and innovation to improve services across sectors, for families, towards child, family and community wellbeing.

CREATE FOUNDATION
CREATE Foundation is the national peak consumer body representing the voices of children and young people with an out-of-home care experience. We provide programs and services to children and young people in care and develop policy and research to advocate for a better care system.

INNOVATIVE RESOURCES
Innovative Resources is a not for profit publisher. Our conversation-building materials have grown out of the strengths-based philosophy of St Luke’s. This philosophy and our application of it to resource development and training continue to evolve to include best-practice concepts drawn from domains including Solution-focused Brief Therapy, Narrative Approaches, Positive Psychology, Appreciative Inquiry and Choice Theory.
PATHWAYS TO RESILIENCE
The Pathways to Resilience Trust (the “Trust”) is a charitable organisation with the objective of building resilience in vulnerable families and communities through the promotion of social and emotional learning. Specifically, the Trust works to strengthen at-risk groups by introducing a common language of wellbeing in schools.

PEAK CARE QUEENSLAND INC
PeakCare Queensland Inc. (PeakCare) is a peak body for child and family services. Across Queensland, PeakCare has over 60 Members, which are a mix of small, medium and large, local and statewide, mainstream and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander non-government organisations that provide family support, child protection, and out-of-home care services to children and young people and their families.
National Families Week coincides with the United Nations International Day of Families on 15 May.

The aim of National Families Week is to celebrate the important role that families play in Australian society.

Each year over a hundred thousand people participate in National Families Week events around Australia. Save the date for 2017 and join the celebration.

National Families Week is run by Families Australia and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

More information can be found on our website www.nfw.org.au

Families Australia
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
Venue Floorplan and Location Map