



Aboriginal Family Support Services Newsletter

September - October 2020

National Foster and Kinship Care Week - 13 to 19 September

A word from AFSS Chairperson of the Board (and AFSS Foster Carer) Donna Henry:

To all the AFSS Foster Carers, we would like to thank each and every one of you personally for all the love and care you give to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in your care. You continue to show the kids the love and kindness that they need each and every day. Sadly we aren't able to celebrate Carer's Week this year but know you all would be doing something special to show the kids they are loved. We know times have been very challenging with COVID-19 and we are so grateful to have such a strong dedicated AFSS community caring for our Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children. Take care of yourself and others - on behalf of the AFSS Board.

And from AFSS Chief Executive Sharron Williams:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank AFSS Foster Care community for the amazing work you do in caring for Aboriginal children and young people. As we head into Carers' Week we celebrate and appreciate the vital role that you play in the lives of young people. In an environment challenged by the restrictions of the COVID-19 virus, you have continued to open your heart and share your love with the children in your care. I thank you for your care, support and nurturing of the children in your care, not only in Carers' Week, but in every week of the year. Thank you for making a difference.

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Important Dates

AFSS AGM Meeting - November 19

11.30 - 12.30. YHA Meeting Room, 2nd Floor 135 waymouth Street



A message from the Chief Executive

I'm still very pleased to say that AFSS and South Australia are still free from COVID-19 and we are able to carry out our business close to previous operation with careful measures in place.

South Australia celebrated Foster Carers Week last month, which was held from 13 - 19 September. While we were unable to participate in our usual celebrations, our Carer Liaison Officers continue to do a wonderful job at making sure that all of our Foster Carers are supported and appreciated.

AFSS was also lucky enough to be included in the Foster Care Magazine lift out in the Sunday Mail, which featured a story of one of our Carers and her experience. This was also accompanied by a half page advertisement demonstrating AFSS services, which we hope will increase exposure in regards to the need for Foster Carers throughout South Australia and enhance people's inquiries and interest in becoming one.

On the whole, AFSS is continuing to grow at a steady pace as an organisation, and our programs and services are expanding consistently, as we continue to strive to provide therapeutically informed care and services to all of our children and families. We have increased the number of residential homes significantly in the past year, and we will also be relocating our Smithfield office to another premises later in year, as they have expanded significantly with the commencement of the Reconnect Program and expansion of CS&W Programs.

AFSS Youth Shed in Coober Pedy is also getting some excellent feedback from both parents and children, as the creative interaction between peers, and connection to community and culture is benefiting the youth greatly.



*Sharron Williams
Chief Executive*



www.afss.com.au

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And this is what our Foster Care Services Team wanted to say:

Being a caregiver is tough. Some days you may want to give up, especially when your hard work seems to go unnoticed. Trust me when I say this - but we do appreciate you and everything you do. May you be proud of the work you do, the person you are and the difference you make. **Mark Griffiths - CLO.**

Thank you for spreading your sunshine and warmth to all the children that have been and are in your care. Your single act of kindness can make a huge impact on the lives of many children and I am amazed by your compassion and love every day. **Bridie Valentine - CLO.**

Thank you for everything that you do and the difference that you make in the lives of many. Thank you for all your generosity - it is deeply appreciated! **Kathi Fejo - CLO.**

You nurture and protect,
and teach us with great care,
and every time we need you,
you are always there.

Thank you for opening your hearts and your homes. **Becky Matthews - CLO.**

"Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared" - a quote from Buddha.

Carers bring happiness to the lives of everyone they meet, children, family, friends, Carer Liaison Officers & Assessment Officers! **Sarah Pellen - CLO.**

A massive thank you to all my wonderful foster carers for your dedication, hard work, patience and love that you so freely give to the children in your care. Many blessings to you all. **Judy Spooner - CLO.**



Foster Carers Wanted!

Are you passionate about the future of Aboriginal children and young people?

- Are you supportive and understanding?
- Can you help keep young people safe in culture and community?

AFSS is seeking foster carers in the Adelaide metropolitan area and regional South Australia. We are looking for caring people just like you, who want to play their part in keeping Aboriginal children and young people safe within their community, and who can also provide a safe and loving home.

Fostering could be the greatest challenge you'll ever undertake, but the rewards can be many.

And AFSS is here to help you every step of the way. The team at AFSS will stand with you, to guide you through the registration process, and support you once you become a foster carer.

For More Information, please contact:

**Peter Dyer Manager
Foster Care Services**
peter.dyer@afss.com.au
8205 1500
www.afss.com.au



AFSS Team Leaders Support Worlds Greatest Shave

I'm Rachel; a proud Team Leader in AFSS Residential Care.

I am currently raising funds for the worlds greatest shave! I was sixteen the first time I shaved my head to raise funds for the Leukaemia foundation.

Eight years later, and with a whole lot of will power; I've finally managed to grow my hair out long enough (without dying it mind you) so that I can now SHAVE AGAIN!

This time however I'll be donating my ginger locks to be made into a wig for someone in need. Every cent counts, so please, if you're able to do so;

Click the link below and donate towards a worthwhile cause.



<https://secure.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/registrant/FundraisingPage.aspx?registrationID=793169&langPref=en-CA>



My names is Ryan and I am a casual worker for AFSS! So this year I have decided to take part in the worlds greatest shave and would love your support! I have been growing my hair out for a while now and I decided that if I was ever going to shave it off I was going to do for a good cause! If I fully reach my goal I'm also going to shave my beard with it, every little bit helps guys, thankyou so much!

Every day another 47 Australians are diagnosed with a blood cancer, that's one Aussie every 31 minutes.

Your donation will make sure families facing blood cancer have a place to call home during treatment, someone to turn to, and access to the best possible care and treatment. You will also help drive funding for Australia's best and brightest blood cancer researchers in their quest to deliver rapid advancements in diagnosis, treatment and ultimately a cure.

Will you help by sponsoring me today? Just click here to sponsor me:

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/ryanknowles>.



#worldsgreatestshave



The Youth Shed - Coober Pedy

The Youth Shed provides a safe place where all young people in Coober Pedy can be engaged in recreational, wellbeing and diversionary programs. It provides young people with the opportunity to build connections with peers, community and other service providers in Coober Pedy.

The service is open from Monday to Thursday (3pm to 7pm) and Friday's (3pm to 9pm). We currently have about 15 young people attending per day. It is a safe place for the young people to have fun, play some pool or games with their friends, do some artwork, or learn a new recipe. We have recently finished a school holiday program in conjunction with Complete Personnel. The young people enjoyed a Tennis Clinic which was organised by Complete Personnel, as well as arts and crafts, and also just enjoyed hanging out at the Shed. We would like to thank Complete Personnel who kindly donated tennis rackets to AFSS for the program, as well as Remote School Area Team and Nathan May.

Overall young people have engaged extremely well across all program areas and are constantly discussing what they want in the program and how they want to drive youth programs in the community. This is what the young people have commented:

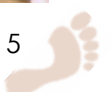
"Finally we get to do some fun activities"

"I have really enjoyed developing my personal goals for the future"

"My mum says I'm much happier now that basketball is back on"

A number of parents have also commented on the attitudinal changes in their children, also noted by the Coober Pedy Area School. Parents and caregivers, families and communities have been very vocal and supportive of AFSS getting access to the Youth Shed for the benefit of young people in Coober Pedy.

If you live in the Coober Pedy area and would like to find out more about the program, please contact Lisa McClure on 86723066.



Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specific Homeless Service (YAATSISHS)

YAATSISHS is an emergency accommodation service for young Aboriginal people from the ages of 15 to 25. Referrals come from the Homelessness Connect, self referrals, other accommodation or youth services, juvenile justice service providers, Schools, the Department for Child Protection, the Child Abuse Report Line, or SAPOL.

The primary aims of YAATSISHS is:

- To provide supported accommodation and related support services to help people who are at risk of homelessness achieve the maximum possible degree of self reliance and independence
- To resolve crisis, to re-establish family links, and to re-establish a capacity to live independently of specialist homelessness services

Our Service Includes Waitlist, Residential and Outreach services:

Waitlist

While we may not have a bed available, we will provide waitlist services for clients who meet the criteria for supported accommodation through case management, referral and brokerage. Waitlist can involve early intervention to support clients before they become homeless. We work with relevant stakeholders to ensure early identification and case management of people who are at risk of homelessness. Waitlist support also focuses on ensuring clients present circumstances are safe and secure and they are engaged in purposeful case planning.

Residential

Supported accommodation for young people is offered at two residential facilities, Narungga House (7 beds for males) and Olga Fudge Lodge (8 beds for females). Olga Fudge Lodge can accommodate women with children. A total of 15 beds across the 2 locations are available. Case planning and case management focuses on stabilising young people, securing benefits they are entitled to and other social supports, organising health checks, connecting with family and culture, fostering independent living skills and connecting to education and or employment options. Exit points are primarily to supported housing, private rental, family, community housing and medium to longer term supported residential care options. Clients residing with the Service for over 3 months will participate in a case plan review to reprioritise their goals, particularly as they relate to housing.

Outreach

Once a client leaves AFSS or another service, we can provide outreach to assist clients to maintain their accommodation, build upon and consolidate their independent living skills and to maintain engagement with friends, family and community. We work with our clients prior to them leaving our service to set up supports and referrals. We ensure we allocate an outreach worker that a client is familiar with and with whom they have built a relationship. Our overall aim is to assist clients to sustain their accommodation to stabilise their life situation.



For more Information or for a referral to the program, please Ring Nick on 0409 993 444 or email Nicholas.Ward@afss.com.au



HOW SPEAK UP HELPED ME...

"I did the Speak up training, was a CREATE Young Consultant for years and now I work as a Youth Facilitator at CREATE. I think that doing Speak Up is a good opportunity for young people both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous to gain the knowledge and confidence to advocate for their own rights and the rights of other young people in care, as well as being able to share their story."

Sharney,
CREATE Young Consultant

WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF IT?

- A free Speak Up T-Shirt
- A Certificate of Achievement
- Access to further development opportunities as a CREATE Young Consultant, including CREATE's national conferences
- A chance to meet new people who get you, make new friends and gain more confidence.

HOW TO GET YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED

THAT'S EASY!

Call CREATE on 1800 655 105 during business hours and speak to one of our staff in our state and territory offices. Or you can head to create.org.au/what-we-do/speakup to learn more about the training, see some examples of Young Consultants in action and learn about the next training date in your area!

BECOME A MEMBER

A young person must become a clubCREATE member to access CREATE Programs. To become a clubCREATE member, simply log on at: www.create.org.au and follow the links. So what are you waiting for? Check CREATE out!

HAVE A YOUNG PERSON IN MIND WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS PROGRAM BUT MIGHT BE RELUCTANT TO ATTEND?

Attend and meet the CREATE crew! We have Young Consultants who have done Speak Up before come along to minimise the WEIRD factor, as well as our friendly staff who are trained on creating a positive, safe environment. To help with the comfort levels we also provide lots of food and do activities to help people get to know each other.

About the artist: Michelle Tyhuis, 38, is of Torres Strait Islander descent from Erub (Dartley) Island on her mother's side, and is of Dutch descent from Rijssen in the Netherlands on her father's side. Michelle has been practicing as a contemporary commission-based artist since 2001.



create.org.au | 1800 655 105

[facebook.com/CREATEfund](https://www.facebook.com/CREATEfund) [createfund](https://www.instagram.com/createfund)

SPEAK UP

AN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A CARE EXPERIENCE



CONFIDENCE

COMMUNICATION

RESILIENCE

LEADERSHIP



CREATE acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which our company is located and where we conduct our business. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present.

The Speak Up program actively acknowledges the role and importance of connection to culture in the lives of young people in care.

WHAT IS SPEAK UP?

Speak Up is an empowerment program that is available to all young people with a statutory care experience aged 14-25 years. It is delivered by trained CREATE Foundation staff across all states and territories.

Through a series of interactive, workshop-style sessions, Speak Up helps young people to:

- Develop confidence and self-awareness
- Understand their care experience and the care system
- Learn how to communicate effectively with others and become part of a team.

Once young people complete Level 1 of the Speak Up program, they have the option to become a 'Young Consultant' with CREATE. Young Consultants:

- Work as part of the CREATE team to advocate for children and young people with a care experience
- Help CREATE to organise fun events for children and young people
- Help CREATE to run training for child protection staff
- Are often invited to provide their opinion at forums and workshops about improving the care system.

YOUNG CONSULTANTS MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN, FOR THEMSELVES AND FOR OTHER PEOPLE.



SPEAK UP



LEVEL 1 - INDIVIDUAL

Level 1 is the entry level for Speak Up. This level is focused on self-development and young people building confidence. Participants also learn about advocacy and the importance of strengths based communication.

SPEAK UP



LEVEL 2 - STATE

Level 2 builds on the communication skills covered in Level 1. Participants learn what personal boundaries are and why they are important when sharing one's personal story. Young people also learn about their rights and responsibilities, as well as how to use their voice effectively.

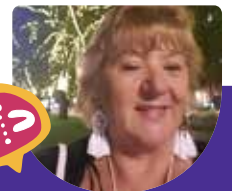


SPEAK UP

LEVEL 3 - NATIONAL

Level 3 is the advanced level of Young Consultants Training. This level is focussed on building the skills of young people who will possibly complete national work as a Young Consultant on behalf of their CREATE Foundation.

In Level 3 young people learn about how to, effectively represent their peers in high level forums, facilitate groups and lead group discussions. Participants are also given some basic media skills and learn about the role that the media plays in advocacy.



"After Dani took part in this programme she became more self-assured. She learned how to speak up in a positive way to put her thought forward. I think every child would benefit with the support from this program to give them more confidence to share their opinions in a useful way."

Carol, Foster Carer



Current and New Staff Updates



Ruby Hodgson, Case Worker, Targeted Intervention Service, Cross Roads.

Hi everyone, my name is Ruby. I have recently joined the Targeted Intervention Service at Cross Roads as a Case Worker. From the get-go I have enjoyed the role and the strong social justice ethos at AFSS.

I am from Mparntwe (Alice Springs), a beautiful but hot town with some of the best hidden water holes, walking trails and views of the stars at night from a swag (along the Finke track is my top pick)!

My work experience has been in child care and supporting women and children experiencing domestic violence and homelessness. I am continually humbled and inspired by the strength and resilience of the people I work with and feel blessed to be able to call my passion of supporting and advocating for people 'work'.

I look forward to my journey at AFSS and working alongside you all.



Kerryn Dadleh, Case Worker, Stronger Families, Port Augusta.

Hi my name is Kerryn Dadleh.

I am a proud Dieri woman.

I would like to say that I am very privileged to be given the opportunity to be employed as a Case Worker in the Stronger Families program, Port Augusta.

I have lived in Port Augusta all of my life. My previous work background has been in Aboriginal Health for many years as an Aboriginal Health Practitioner in Women's Health.

I am a proud mother of 2 children, Benjamin and Katelyn, and a grandmother to 1 gorgeous grandson Joey.

I wanted to challenge myself, so I applied for the Case Worker position and look forward to this new experience and to support the families in our community.

I am excited to be part of the AFSS team in Port Augusta.

And I look forward to meeting you all.



Anthony Ackland, Youth Worker, Coober Pedy.

Hi my name is Anthony Ackland, I am an indigenous man of the Kokatha/Wiringu nations on the far West Coast of SA.

I have had extensive skills acquired over many years working in SA and other states of Australia.

I was a Senior telecommunications technical officer with Telstra back in the 80's, a Senior Community Constable with SAPOL, during my times in SAPOL, I have had contact with many Indigenous people (family) kids, and other cultures not represented by a Liaison Officer with the Police.

I have worked in Indigenous health in Coober Pedy and the Pilbara in WA as a Liaison Officer & Aboriginal Health Worker. I recently returned to SA from Elcho Island in the Northern territory where I was an Aerodrome Reporting Officer, living with the Yolngu people. I have worked as an Aged Care Support Officer & cook in Yalata, SA & moved back to Coober Pedy, where I have gained employment with the

Coober Pedy AFSS team as a Youth Worker.

I look forward to the challenges ahead and hope to make a positive impact in the lives of the children and families here in Coober Pedy & assist my team mates whenever they need my help.



Temeika Campbell, Aboriginal Cultural Consultant, Metro.

Hi, My name is Temeika and I am the new Aboriginal Family Support Services Cultural Consultant. I have learnt so much already in the very short 2 weeks that I have been here and met some really amazing people. I have spent the majority of my work life within Aboriginal organisations whose sole focus is to support clients in addressing issues that directly impact the Aboriginal community and I welcome the opportunity and challenges that come with my current role at AFSS. I am super excited about working with you all and would like to thank you all for your support so far.



Modest Bienvenu, Youth Support Worker, Residential Services, Adelaide.

My name is Modest Bienvenu, I'm a new Youth Support Worker. I am a father and a husband. I hold Bachelor Degree in Social Work and Social Planning from Flinders University. I have completed Certificates III in Disability and Aged Care. I have previously worked in disability sector. I enjoying working with diverse population.



Caitlin O'Connor, Support Worker, Residential Care.

Hi! I'm Caitlin and I am currently studying a Bachelor of Social Work. I feel extremely lucky to be gaining work experience at AFSS that will enhance my career options upon graduating.



Roslyn Walsh, Support Worker, YAATSISHS.

Roslyn Walsh Celebrates 7 Years

Roslyn Walsh recently celebrated 7 years of service within the YAATSISHS Program. Roz, as she's affectionately known, started back in 2013 and has been a huge contributor to the YAATSISHS Program over the years. Known for her no nonsense, yet compassionate approach to supporting young people, Roz is as enthusiastic and passionate about her work today, as she was when she started 7 years ago.

The YAATSISHS team held a surprise afternoon tea, after a team meeting, which caught Roz a bit off guard and had her a little speechless, which for anyone that knows Roz, knows this is no mean feat. Roz and the team celebrated and reminisced about the good times within AFSS. Well done and congratulations Roz for an outstanding commitment to AFSS.



AFSS Foster Care featured in Sunday Mail Magazine

Sunday Mail
Foster and kinship care
 ISSUE 1 | SEPTEMBER 2020 | MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN CHILDREN'S LIVES

PAGES 2-3
OPEN YOUR HEART
 SA'S NEED FOR CARERS

TYPES OF CARE
 FROM EMERGENCY TO LONG-TERM AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN
 PAGES 2-4

STEPS TO SUCCESS
 FIND OUT HOW TO GET INVOLVED
 PAGES 16-17

PAGES 14-16
SPECIAL SKILLS
 FOSTERING CHILDREN WITH HIGH NEEDS

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS
 SUPPORTING OUR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN
 PAGES 6-7

Could you open your heart and home to a child or young person in need?

It might be for a weekend, a few days in the school holidays, a month or longer. Any amount of your time can change a child's life.

Find out more. Call **1300 2 FOSTER** (1300 2 367 837) or visit www.fostercare.sa.gov.au

foster care
 May your heart, enrich a life

On September 13, AFSS featured in the Sunday Mail's Foster and Kinship Care Magazine lift out, which was dedicated to Foster Carers throughout SA. The magazine coincided with National Foster and Kinship Care Week, which was held from 13 - 19 September. AFSS foster carers, Vicky and Wayne Wilson, who have 3 young Aboriginal siblings, were interviewed for the article and shared their experience as foster carers. They stated that becoming a foster parent has made their lives incredible, and the kids have given them so many amazing experiences. They also talked about the importance of connection to culture and involving the kids with their biological great-grandmother and cousins, so that they can get the best of both worlds.

If you would like to read the full article, or the entire Foster and Kinship Care lift out, please click the following link: <https://theadvertiser.digitaleditions.com.au/edition.php?code=NCADVFKC> (Please note that you will need a subscription with the Advertiser).

THE INSIDE: ABORIGINAL CONNECTION WITH COMMUNITY

Aboriginal foster carers have been making their foster care placements more than 60 years. From the 1950s, when the first Aboriginal foster care placements were made, to the present day, the role of foster care has evolved significantly. Today, foster care is a vital part of the child protection system, providing a safe and stable home for children in need.

AFSS foster carers play a crucial role in supporting these children, providing them with a loving and nurturing environment. They work closely with the Department of Social Services to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children in their care.

Caring for culture

Having grown up in foster care, Vicky Wilson knows better than most the importance of a loving home and links to community.

We still have connections to those biological great-grandmother and cousins, so they have a connection to their own world.

With Aboriginal children who are growing up in foster care, it's important to ensure they have a strong connection to their culture and community. This is especially true for children who have been in foster care for a long time. Vicky and Wayne Wilson, who have three young Aboriginal siblings, know the importance of this connection. They have made it a priority to involve their children in their cultural activities and to spend time with their biological family members. This has helped the children to maintain their identity and to feel a sense of belonging.

New funding to support Aboriginal children in care

A new program funded by the State Government will help to support Aboriginal children in care. This program will provide additional funding to foster carers who are caring for Aboriginal children. This funding will be used to support the children's cultural and community needs, as well as to provide additional support for the foster carers. This is a significant step towards ensuring that Aboriginal children in care have the best possible outcomes.

WE NEED TO RESPECT EACH CHILD'S CULTURAL NEEDS

Jeanette, foster carer
Aboriginal Family Support Services
#FosterCareSA



Government of South Australia
Department for Child Protection



Introducing Jeanette - AFSS Foster Carer

For Aboriginal woman Jeanette, caring has been part of her life for as long as she can remember.

The 55-year-old, who lives in Whyalla, currently has two children in her long-term care and provides emergency and short-term care through Aboriginal Family Support Services.

Jeanette followed in the footsteps of her mother who provided foster care throughout her childhood, starting her own caring role as a 19-year-old.

"My mum fostered children when I was growing up so it just seemed the natural thing to do," Jeanette said.

"My mum was part of the Stolen Generations and she was fostered to many families, some good some not so good.

"I guess this is why she fostered

children and she only fostered Aboriginal children."

As a teacher on the Eyre Peninsula for 30 years, Jeanette has worked with many children in care and recognises the importance of keeping Aboriginal children connected to family, community and culture.

"It goes without saying that we need to respect each child's cultural needs," she said.

Jeanette has shared her story as part of the #FosterCareSA social media campaign to bring greater awareness to the need for more carers in South Australia.

She said that while fostering is not always easy, it is one of the most rewarding things you can do.

"We love supporting the children we care for to do what they are passionate about and encouraging

them to be ambitious and strive for their goals," she said.

"It is also beautiful to watch our children welcome other young people to our family.

"Our last placement was two siblings and they arrived at 9pm at night. Our (foster) children were so helpful in welcoming them and helping them settle into our home."

To help us raise awareness about foster care, please share these stories on social media with the hashtag #FosterCareSA.

Anyone interested in finding out more about foster care should visit:

www.fostercare.sa.gov.au

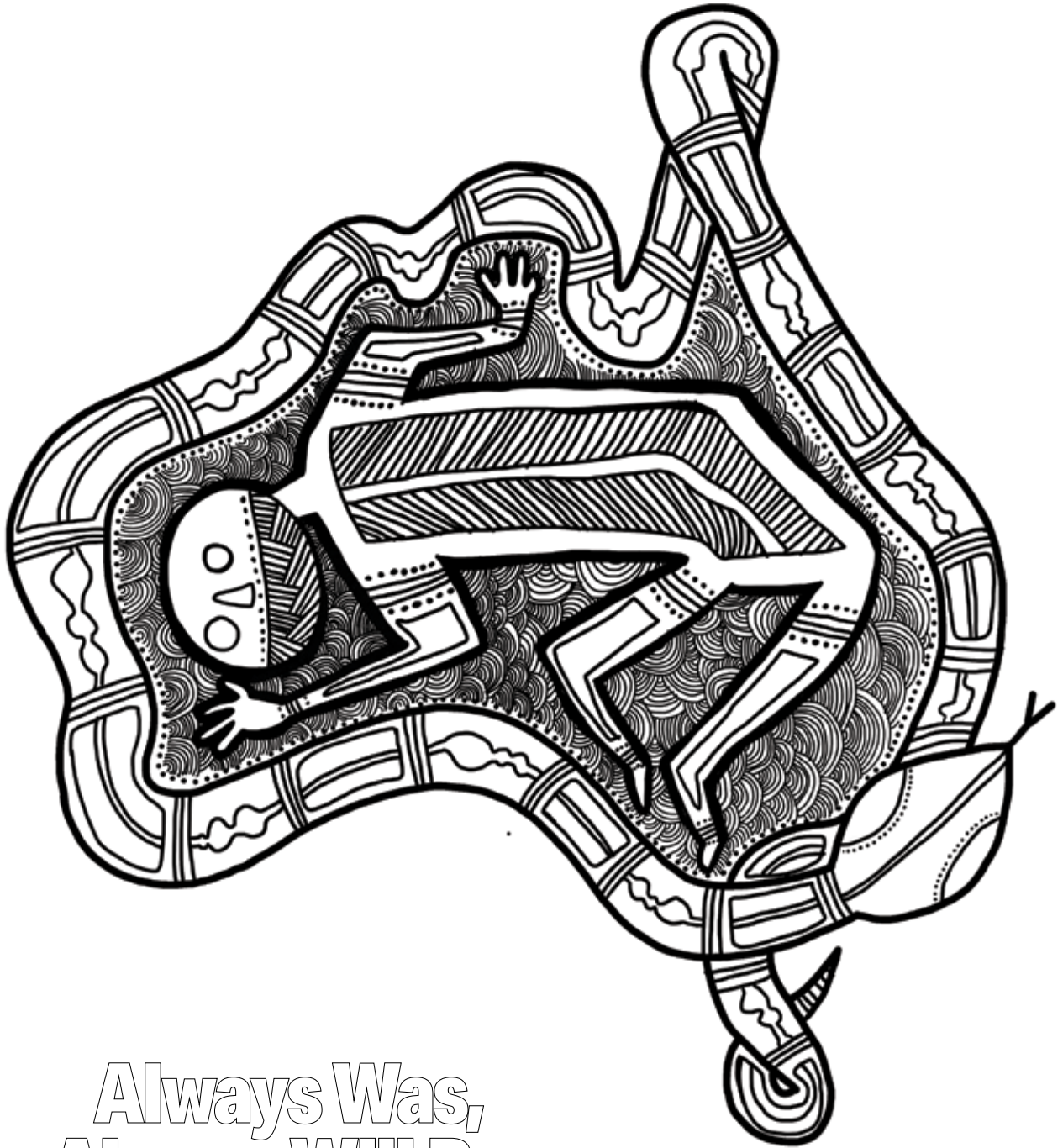
or call **1300 2 FOSTER (367 837)**

www.afss.com.au

or call **8205 1500**



Just for **KIDS**



Always Was,
Always Will Be.



naidoc.org.au

NAIDOC WEEK

8-15 NOV 2020

#NAIDOC2020
#AlwaysWasAlwaysWillBe

Artwork: Shape of Land by Tyrone Waigana

The Rainbow Serpent came out of the Dreamtime to create this land. It is represented by the snake and it forms the shape of Australia, which symbolises how it created our lands. The colour from the Rainbow Serpent is reflected on to the figure to display our connection to the Rainbow Serpent, thus our connection to country. The overlapping colours on the outside is the Dreamtime. The figure inside the shape of Australia is a representation of Indigenous Australians showing that this country - since the dawn of time - always was, and always will be Aboriginal land.

[facebook.com/NAIDOC](https://www.facebook.com/NAIDOC)

[@naidocweek](https://www.instagram.com/naidocweek)

[@naidocweek](https://www.tiktok.com/@naidocweek)



AFSS Board Members

Donna Henry Chairperson of the Board

Donna Henry is a Noonuccal, Goenpul woman from Quandamooka country QLD and has lived on Kaurna land for over 30 years. A wife and mum to five beautiful children, and an Aunty to many.

Donna had worked in Aboriginal Education for 11 years as the following:

- SA Aboriginal Education Consultative Council, 7 years - current
- Worked and supported Aboriginal families at her children's school by being on the Aboriginal parents' groups and governing council. (Currently in her third year as Chairperson of her children's High School.) Donna is very passionate about change for Aboriginal children in Education.
- Port Adelaide Enfield Council Aboriginal Advisory Committee (11 years).
- Volunteer for 15 years as a Child Advocate.
- AFSS Foster Carer for 16 years.

Here are a few areas of study Donna has undertaken:

- Donna has done many years of different training in relation to child protection, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), trauma based training etc.
- Diploma - Aboriginal Education
- TAFE SA- AEW Cert 3

Donna is very passionate about and works towards ensuring Aboriginal Children are able to go home to parents and family and are in a safe and loving home.



Dennis Rigney Executive Member

Dennis has been a member of the AFSS board since November 2019. He has spent 28 years of his working life employed in Public Service, and has worked in the following positions:

- Senior Strategic Development Officer [Strategy Policy & Aboriginal Outcomes] - Housing SA
- Senior Consultant [Department of Premier & Cabinet]
- Social Worker [Department of Human Services]

He has also been involved in/employed as a:

- Project Officer [Royal Commission Into Aboriginal Deaths In Custody] - Department of Social Inclusion.
- Committee Member [Prospect Council Reconciliation Plan Committee] - Prospect Council SA
- Consult & Committee Member [Aboriginal Community Connect] Uniting Community Services
- Management Committee Member - Pooraka Farm Community Centre Incorporated






Around The Houses


The children and young people placed in the Residential Service have been busy with arts and crafts over the weekend. The Saturday especially was very windy and dusty, so critters were made out of toilet rolls. Mr. and Mrs. 'bottle head' were made out of homemade coloured sand filled into plastic bottles and then decorated with stickers. All had a lot of fun with their imagination running wild. They are proudly displayed in the window sill of the home. A science experiment is also being done with carrots and potatoes sprouting on wet paper towel.

#7DAYONLINE SAFETY CHALLENGE




DAY 1

Create a Family Online Safety Contract




DAY 2

Review location, privacy settings and parental controls




DAY 3

Talk to your child about sharing personal information online




DAY 4

Find out what apps and games your child uses




DAY 5

Check DM or chat functions on your child's apps and games



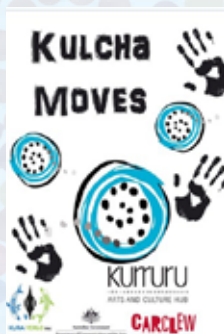
DAY 6

Talk about suspicious online behaviour and what it looks like



DAY 7

Help your child identify a support network



Kulcha Moves, Kurna Ngarrindjeri Cultural Workshops

Led by cultural leaders and elders

Open for all ages

Saturdays (once a fortnight) 11am - 1pm

12 McLaren Parade, Port Adelaide

Cultural dance, language, storytelling, arts and crafts, yarns and lunch provided



Kurruru 2020 Workshop Program



HIP HOP Workshops

(ages 10+)

Wednesdays 4:15 - 5:15

86-96 Trimmer Parade, Seaton

Weekly workshops with deadly dancer Wakara Gondarra



Contemporary Indigenous

Dance Workshops (ages 12+)

Wednesdays 5:30 - 6:30

86-96 Trimmer Parade, Seaton

Weekly workshops with resident choreographer Kaine Sultan Babij



Kurruru Youth Dance Ensemble

(ages 10-17+)

Mondays 5:00 - 6:30

86-96 Trimmer Parade, Seaton

Contemporary Indigenous dance and cultural dance, with opportunity to be involved in community performances



Nunga Ballet

(ages 3-12 years)

Thursdays 4:00 - 4:45pm

86-96 Trimmer Parade, Seaton

Fun and engaging ballet classes focusing on the development of motor skills introducing participants to Ballet technique

Phone (08) 8449 7367 for more information / Email: ginarings@kurruruartsandculture.com





Where to find us

Adelaide

134 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000
Phone: 8205 1500

Berri

23 Denny Street
Berri SA 5343
Phone: 8582 3192

Smithfield

39a Anderson Walk
Smithfield SA 5114
Phone: 8254 1077

Ceduna

28 Poynton Street
Ceduna SA 5690
Phone: 8625 3466

Cooper Pedy

Lot 1991 Aylett Street
Cooper Pedy SA 5723
Phone: 8672 3066

Mount Gambier

68 White Road Compton
Mt Gambier SA 5290
Phone: 0499 889 729

Murray Bridge

4a, 17-19 Adelaide Rd
Murray Bridge SA 5253
Phone: 8532 1790

Port Augusta

8 -10 Victoria Parade
Port Augusta SA 5700
Phone: 8641 0907

Port Lincoln

21 Washington Street
Port Lincoln SA 5606
Phone: 8683 1909

Aboriginal Family Support Services

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 19 November 2020
11.30am – 12.30pm

YHA Meeting Room, 2nd Floor
135 Waymouth Street, Adelaide

A light lunch will be provided.

Please RSVP to Helen Laxton, Executive Support Officer
(08) 8205 1523

Helen.laxton@afss.com.au

By Monday 9 November for catering purposes.



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