



# COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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**AGM**  
**Thurs**  
**8/11/23**

**Flexi-Funding**

**Better Futures**

**Helpine**

**CAP**

ADDITIONAL COSTS OF CARE

INDEPENDENCE, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT

REFERRALS, ADVOCACY

CARER ASSISTANCE



## PCA Families Annual General Meeting

**Save  
the  
date**



**Date:** Wednesday 8 November 2023

**Time:** 4.00-6.00pm

**Guest Speaker:** Stacy Blythe; Associate Professor in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Western Sydney University and Deputy Director of Translational Research and Social Innovation group.

**Venue:** Rendezvous Hotel, President's Room, 328 Flinders Street, Melbourne

**Register:** <https://www.trybooking.com/CLEWV> and select if you prefer to attend in person or online. For those attending online a link will be sent to you closer to the event.

Stacey's research focuses on the health and well-being of children in out-of-home care. As a lecturer in Infant Mental Health, she is particularly interested in infants who are prenatally exposed to harmful substances (eg. illicit drugs). In addition to her nursing, teaching and research qualifications, Stacy has post graduate certification in Developmental Trauma. Stacy has also been a carer for 18+ years.

Drawing on her skills as a nurse, knowledge as a researcher and experience as a carer, Stacy provides training to health care workers, social service providers, educators and carers in relation to working with children who have prenatal substance exposure and/or have experienced trauma.

**You can attend via webinar or face to face.**

# Recruiting - Senior Worker

## Better Futures and Homestretch Senior Worker, Part-time, 6FTE

Come and join a team of highly skilled, motivate and compassionate professionals.



PCA Families has an exciting vacancy to lead our Better Futures and Homestretch program. The Better Futures and Homestretch program aims to engage with Young People leaving care, providing individualised supports including housing, health and wellbeing, education, employment, and community and cultural connections.

The Senior Worker will be instrumental to leading the small team and engaging with of the Young People and their Carers to confirm their eligibility and gaining the Young Person's consent to be referred to a Better Futures and Homestretch service provider.

### The position requires:

- Experience working with Young People, Carers and Families.
- Understanding of the barriers and challenges facing Young People and Carers in Permanent Care and trauma informed approaches.
- Knowledge of Child Protection, Out of Home Care, Child, and Family Services sectors.
- Experience in leading a small team.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and a positive and enthusiastic manner.

Lived Experience of the Out of Home Care sector would be viewed favourably.

### Benefits of working at PCA Families:

- SCHADS Award level 5.1 plus 10% higher duties allowance and superannuation.
- Up to three days additional leave over Christmas/New Year period.
- Hybrid, flexible working arrangements.
- Ongoing training and professional development opportunities.
- A supportive and positive work environment.
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP).
- Attractive not-for-profit salary packaging.

### For more information:

If you would like to know more about this role, please contact Wendy Mason, CEO on 0499 617 106.

To apply for this role please visit our [website](#)

# PCA Families member survey

Permanent Care and Adoptive Families (PCA Families) is undertaking a review of its membership and is seeking your feedback.

To assist us in this process we would be grateful if you could take 15 minutes to complete, the anonymous survey below. The information gathered from the survey will assist PCA Families to determine its future membership model and what a viable membership offering would look like. The collated results from the survey will be shared with you via our communications and at the PCA Families' Annual General Meeting.

The survey will remain open for until the 30th of September 2023.

To participate, please click [here](#) we really appreciate your input.



## Q&A- Helpline

PCA Families is running Q&A helpline information sessions to provide you an opportunity to ask any questions or queries you have regarding our Helpline program.

All questions are welcome.

Time: **10.30 - 11.30am on Thursday 5 October**

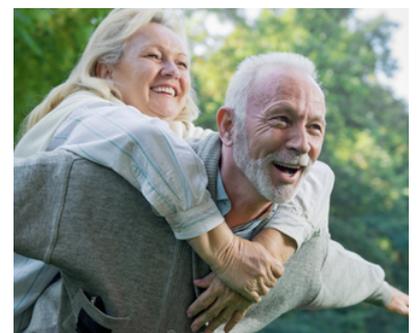
Register: **via [zoom](#)**



Have you considered joining Carers Victoria? Membership is free and provides regular newsletters on the latest in carer information such as free carer education sessions, give aways and stories about carers by carers.

The more members they have, the stronger their voice to advocate for improvements in carer recognition and support.

<https://www.carersvictoria.org.au/about-us/our-membership>



# Recruitment - Board Positions

**Call for nominations for Directors to be elected to the Board of Permanent Care and Adoptive Families Inc. at the Annual General Meeting on the 8th November 2023.**

PCA Families is seeking to appoint up to three Directors, two who have personal and family connections to Permanent Care and Adoption and one of whom does not have involvement with permanent care and adoption but is interested in becoming a Director.

The following key skills have been identified for recruitment by the Board. Our hope is that the two Directors who have a personal and family connections to Permanent Care and Adoption will also be able to fill the skill gaps below:

- Marketing, media, and communications.
- Links to corporate sponsors and success in attracting sponsorships.
- Influencer-demonstrated links potential to funders. i.e., Government departments/philanthropy.
- Finance, risk management and technology.

The Board Director [position description](#) sets out further details of the role. To nominate:

Your nomination must be:

1. accompanied by a short biographical statement and your consent to nomination;
2. endorsed by one member other than yourself; and
3. given to PCA Families in writing.

All parts of the nomination form must be completed and signed. Your biographical statement will be distributed to all members eligible to vote at the AGM.

The nomination form is to be delivered to PCA Families by email to [chair@pcafmailies.org.au](mailto:chair@pcafmailies.org.au) or [chris@pcafamilies.org.au](mailto:chris@pcafamilies.org.au) or via post to Suite 6/Level 1, 69-71 Rosstown Road, Carnegie 3163 by no later than Friday 15th September 2023. Nominations received after this time will not be considered. Download the nominations form from our [website](#)

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## Meet Jessie

Jessie joined PCA Families in August 2023 as a Helpline Support Worker. She holds a Bachelor of Social Work and Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology). Her previous experience is within the out-of-home-care sector, including child protection, foster care, and kinship care. As a foster care case manager, she enjoyed the challenge of finding suitable foster carers for foster children, training and assessing potential foster carers, and working with other professionals to create a supportive care team. Jessie is passionate about working with children and families, ensuring more children have access to the supports they need in order to thrive.



Jessie loves spending time with her husband and two sons. She absolutely loves cuddling her pet cavoodle Alfie. In her spare time, she enjoys running, photography, and eating delicious baked goods! Jessie works Mondays and Fridays.

# Petition for Butterfly Foundation

The Butterfly Foundation need help to reach 10,000 signatures for Butterfly and Dove's petition for a National Inquiry into Body Image by the end of August.

The inquiry aims to kick-start a national conversation about what policies and programs may be needed to bring about real change in body ideals in Australia, including understanding the prevalence and full impact of body dissatisfaction, and the role played by social media. It would also provide a forum to hear from researchers, clinicians, professionals who work with kids, parents, people with lived experience and others about the problems and potential solutions. This is critical for supporting the current generation of young people and protecting the generations to come.

Help us reach our target signatures so we can raise the alarm with Australian Parliament that this is a substantial community issue that urgently needs addressing.

- Sign the petition [HERE](#) if you haven't already
- Share [the](#) petition on your organisation's or your own social channels (feel free to use the tiles attached)

They would really appreciate your support!

## Carer Assistance Program - Therapeutic Support

Self referral available [here](#).

## DFFH Flexible Funding - Funding Additional Needs

Further information available [here](#).

Subscribe to Facebook, LinkedIn or Youtube by clicking these links



It's time for us to understand the reality and impact of body dissatisfaction in Australia

Sign the petition for a National Inquiry into Body Image today

SCAN HERE

[dove.com/au/petition.html](https://dove.com/au/petition.html)

## Helpline - Information, support and referrals

Further information available [here](#).

## Better Futures and Home Stretch - Support to 21

Find out more [here](#).

PCA Families, Level 1, Suite 6, 69-71 Rosstown Road, Carnegie 3163  
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