



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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AGM
Wed 8/11/23

**SHARE &
CONNECT**
Wed 29/11/23

Flexi-Funding

Better Futures

Helpine

CAP

ADDITIONAL COSTS OF CARE

INDEPENDENCE, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT

REFERRALS, ADVOCACY

CARER ASSISTANCE



PCA Families - Annual General Meeting Join us in person or online

Date: Wednesday 8 November 2023

Time: 4.00-6.00pm

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

Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/CLEVV> 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.

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.



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.

Peer support - face to face for intercountry adoptive parents of adult children

Dates: Wednesday 25th Oct
Wednesday 22nd Nov

Time: 7:30 pm-9:00 pm

Where: Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library, 182 St Georges Rd North Fitzroy

PCA Families is delighted to announce that with a small grant through ICAFSS (Intercountry Adoptee & Family Support Services), a monthly face-to-face peer support group for parents of adult intercountry adoptees is being established, commencing on Wednesday evening, 25th October at North Fitzroy Library.

The need for intercountry adoptive parents to access opportunities for mutual sharing of the joys and challenges of their adoptive parenting journey has long been recognised as profound benefit for sustaining strong, ongoing relationships with adult adopted children.

It is anticipated that the group's discussion topics will emerge from the needs identified by participants and will be guided by knowledge gained from evidence-based research and professional experts, as well as by the rich, shared wisdom of participants' lived experiences.

Central to this peer support group will be the establishment of a safe, non-judgmental space for sharing experiences and a deep sense of trust and respect for participants, together with a good deal of hope and humour.

To express an interest or to gain more details please email linda2cooke@gmail.com No booking required; you can just attend.

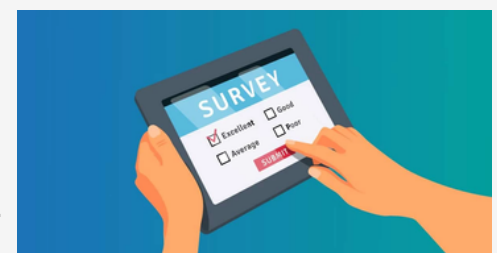
PCA Families member survey

Permanent Care and Adoptive 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 10 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 has been extended to 6th October 2023
A special thanks to those who have already participated; we really appreciate your input.

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



An Inclusive Australia Disability Royal Commission

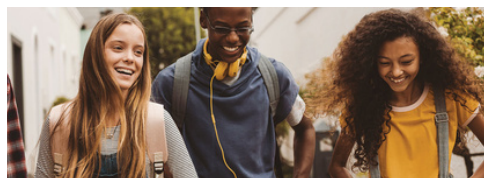
Executive Summary,
Our vision for an
inclusive Australia and
Recommendations

A final report is now available following the Disability Royal Commission which commenced in 2019. This report outlines 222 recommendations to move towards a more inclusive Australia.

An article outlining the recommendations and a copy of the full report can be found [here](#).

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.

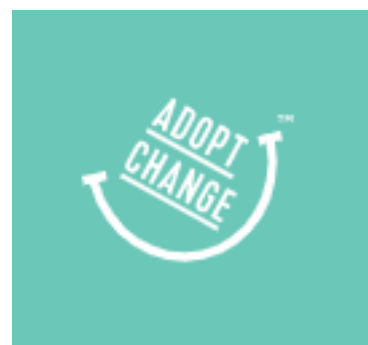
For more information:

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](#)

Interview with Adopt Change CEO Renee Carter

After the announcement of the NSW inquiry, CEO Renée Carter discusses the importance of keeping kids out of hotels and motels to ensure they have the best possible chance to grow up and THRIVE.

To listen click [here](#)



Upcoming Events - Share and Connect



TOPIC: Time IN v Time OUT

DATE: Thursday 19th October from 8.00pm - 9.30pm (online)

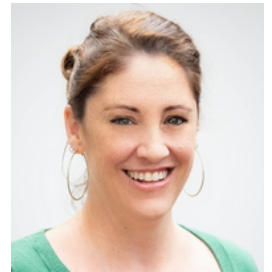
REGISTER: No need to register just come along - Session offered via [Zoom](#)

All carers are tasked with guiding children, which includes responding to challenging behaviours. How this is done can impact a child's ongoing wellbeing and understanding of the world. Time out is a common method used by adults to respond to some of these challenges. But, for children who have experienced trauma, carers will usually find **time out** stops being effective. Join us to hear more.

TOPIC: Join Jenn Colechin discuss Understanding and Responding to Challenging Behaviour

DATE: Wednesday 29 November from 7.30pm - 9.00pm (online)

REGISTER: via [Zoom](#)



This presentation provides an understanding of challenging behaviour including:

- Knowing the common reasons will provide why challenging behaviour occurs and how to avoid triggers for escalation and
- Practical strategies in how to positively de-escalate and successfully respond to challenging behaviour.

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



Helpline - Information, support and referrals

Further information available [here](#).

Better Futures and Home Stretch - Support to 21

Find out more [here](#).

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