

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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QUICK LINKS

[Journal Club - 7/4/22](#)

[Click & Connect - 23/3/22](#)



News - You are Invited!

Would you like some help getting started with the new Flexible Funding forms on our website? If so, please join us on Friday 25 March at 10am on Zoom and we will answer your questions live and walk you through how to lodge an application or otherwise master the updated portal and website! Perhaps consider accessing the Zoom link from your mobile phone and having your iPad or Computer in front of you so that you might easily navigate to the areas that you need help with. Please make sure you register to attend Friday [here](#).



News - Input/Feedback

We encourage members to offer input/feedback to understand what matters you wish to be more involved in at PCA Families. Simply login to the portal and select the Member Input/Feedback button. You can select a prefilled option or tell us what you want to be involved in by selecting "other". You will be contacted in your preferred manner (phone, email, groups) by PCA Families as the need arises on the matters that interest you. Access your portal [here](#).

"Improving the lived experience of young people"

News - Vaccinations at Bunnings!



Haven't had your 1st, 2nd or 3rd dose yet? The Victorian Government is making access even easier, with COVID-19 vaccination pop-ups coming to a Bunnings near you! Eligible people, including kids aged 5-11, can get their vaccination without a booking between 8am-1pm. Starting in Wodonga, Keysborough and Melton East. Details [here](#)

News - LGBTIQ Strategy

Victoria's first whole-of-government LGBTIQ+ strategy has been released, titled "Pride in our future: Victoria's LGBTIQ+ strategy 2022-32". This strategy outlines requirements for equality and inclusion for Victoria's diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+). To find out more see [here](#).



News - Inclusive Victoria

The new state disability plan for 2022-2026 has been released. Person first and identity first language is highlighted in the plan as are many areas in which inequality and discrimination impacts our community. Some interesting facts are included too:

- 17% of Victorians are people with disability
- 77% with disability have a physical disability.

Learn more about disability and how you can help [here](#).

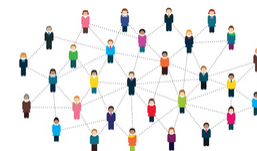


News - Food Relief

Children not eating or drinking at school? It's a challenge that often has a host of reasons associated with it and can be particularly challenging for our children. While you try and work with your child, remember there is great advice out there that can help. Causes can range from fussiness and other treatable causes, to needing clinical help - see [here](#). Simple things like focussing on breakfast or after school nutrition might help you be more confident in their overall health and wellbeing. It could also be the school toilet they are afraid of, which affects their eating behaviour, Today's Parent has a few suggestions - see [here](#). There is also access to food relief financial assistance if food affordability is a factor. Find out more [here](#). Its reported that 1 in 8 parents worry about running out of money to buy food - see [here](#). So you are never alone in these type of worries!



Click & Connect (Peer Support) - Identity, culture and history



Please join us at midday on **Wednesday 23 March** by **registering [here](#)**

We will review and discuss the documentary "Found", available on Netflix and other mediums. This documentary follows the story of three adopted American teenage girls in their journey to discover if they are blood-related cousins. Topics like connection (peers/culture), knowing ones story and therapeutic life story work will be discussed..

Share & Connect - (Peer Support for parents & carers, previously Journal Club)

Topic: DFFH insights into the Better Futures & Home Stretch Program



DATE: Thursday April 7 at 8.00pm

TOPIC: Better Futures and Home Stretch presented by Vanessa Rendina, Principal Practice Leader Better Futures & Home Stretch, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH). Hear from someone who has experience with what the program is all about! Debunk misconceptions and find out how the program can support your child.

DETAILS: Better Futures and Home Stretch supports young people financially to make the transition from care to adulthood until they reach the age of 21. The program enables young people to have a voice and provides support across a range of areas including housing, health & wellbeing, education, employment and community & cultural connections. For more information, [click here](#) We hope you can join us.

REGISTER: [here](#) via [zoom](#)

Flexi-Funds

A reminder that PCA Families has Flexible Funding available to meet the extraordinary needs of children and young people subject to a Permanent Care Order, or where you are receiving DFFH care allowance and have a Family Court Order or Adoption Order.

Flexi funds can be used for therapeutic, educational and medical services, to build skills, interests or attachment, to elevate family contact and cultural identity, to offer respite, home medication or other services like whitegoods, one off clothing, estate planning or vehicle needs eg car seats.

[For details about what the funds can be used for - see here](#)

PCA Families cannot guarantee we are able to fund every application and request received.

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