



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

WWW.PCAFAMILIES.ORG.AU

QUICK LINKS

**Click & Connect -
17/8/22**

**Share & Connect
1/9/22**

**Lets Connect
5/9/22**



News - Welcome to Bruce

Bruce Hart joins PCA Families as Program Director.

Bruce is a social worker and family therapist with many years of experience in child and adolescent mental health, youth residential care, child protection, family services and relationship counselling.

He has moved back into the sector after managing the field education course for the Master of Social Work at Federation University that saw it through a period of substantial growth and the challenges of COVID-19.

Over the years he has facilitated many training courses and team building days for a range of human service organisations. He is a believer in the strengths and potential within people. He likes to work with people to help them to discover these so they manage challenges and can continue to grow and develop.

For many years he has been a cub leader with a local scout group. He loves running activities with kids that help them thorough hands on activities to enhance their potential.

Bruce moved to the Mornington Peninsula in early 2020 where he enjoys sailing his 14-foot dinghy, renovating a house and escaping into the bush to camp and bushwalk.

Bruce is looking forward to working with parents and carers and developing a greater understanding of the needs of PCA Families community.



News - CMV

Got a CMV (cytomegalovirus) diagnosis for your child? The Centre for Excellence is offering a webinar on 30 August, 12.30pm to look at how it affects childrens health. Find out more [here](#).

"Improving the lived experience of young people"

News - Open Days

Many universities and colleges have been offering their open days to year 11 or 12 students recently. RMIT Is open on Sunday 14 August. If you need support for your child remember that often these universities have additional options for children in care. Find out more from the Lookout Centres [here](#) or Raising Expectations [here](#) or your local university or college.

News - CFECFW Wellbeing Continuum



COVID-19 has brought about new challenges for children's mental health, disproportionately affecting those already experiencing adversity. The focus needs to be on prevention and early intervention and the Centre for Excellence in Children and Families has launched a Continuum tool. The Continuum recognises that mental health changes over time from good to overwhelmed, and builds a language for mental health discussions, an important step to support conversations in children's mental health and wellbeing! Find out more [here](#).

News - COVID-19

The Victorian Government have announced that free masks will be distributed across the community health network and the public transportation network in an effort to reduce transmission of COVID-19. Find out more [here](#).



Events - Click & Connect



TOPIC: CHILDHOOD TRAUMA AND THERAPEUTIC PARENTING - GREGORY NICOLAU

DATE: Wednesday 17 August at midday with hosts Virginia & Sonia

TOPIC: In this meeting we will review and discuss the Youtube Recording by Gregory Nicolau on Therapeutic Parenting. Gregory highlights the importance of assessing where your child is at developmentally when they first come into your care, so that you can give thought everyday to how you progress them, whether by connecting with them and giving them help in stressful situations or by offering them the right supports. This is the difference between a carer and a therapeutic carer: the therapeutic carer is always looking at how to support and progress the child. Lets discuss how we might apply this learning in our everyday.

Gregory is a consultant psychologist, skilled in crisis intervention, and the founder of the Australian Childhood Trauma Group. Gregory shares his insights into parenting therapeutically and offers practical solutions and strategies that can be applied in the real world.

REGISTER: [here](#) via Zoom Link

"Delivering trauma informed services that empower"

Events - Let's Connect



EVENT: BENDIGO LET'S CONNECT

LOCATION: BENDIGO LIBRARY Activity Room 2

DATE: Monday 5 September 10am - 2pm with hosts Trish & Liz

TOPIC: At our Let's Connect events its all about getting together to connect with others with lived experience face to face to share tips and advice and/or seek out some specialist advice from one of our PCA Families Advisors and the group.

Due to the latest COVID-10 developments, PCA Families has decided to defer these face to face meetings until September for the safety of all participants,

A PCA Families Advisor will be available for members to meet with individually and will run the group session. We will be open and flexible to discuss whatever you wish on the day or you can contact us ahead of time to let us know what you would like to know more about.

More locations and dates are available on our Events page on our website. COVID-19 meeting requirements will be advised closer to the event but will include minimum vaccination requirements other than where an exception applies. Find out more [here](#).

Events - Share & Connect (Journal Club)

TOPIC: TO BE ADVISED - SAVE THE DATE

DATE: Thursday 1 September

REGISTER: [here](#) via Zoom Link



DFFH Flexible Funding

If your child or young person is on a Permanent Care Order or you receive the DFFH Care Allowance and they have a Family Court Order or Adoption Order, they are entitled to DFFH Flexible Funding to meet the costs of goods and services they need not covered by the care allowance, or another funding source (eg Medicare, NDIS). Flexible funds can be used for therapeutic, educational or medical services, build skills interest or attachments, support birth family contact and cultural identity, respite, medication, vehicle modifications. For more details on what the funds can be used for see [here](#). Claims should be more than \$100 per invoice and generally paid by PCA Families directly to the supplier. To ensure funds are distributed fairly and equitably and are appropriate and safe for your child, we ask for supporting documentation that services are trauma informed and that both goods and services are recommended by a professional who knows your child or young person. Apply early as the need for supporting documentation can mean it takes 21 days to finalise your application.

Subscribe to Facebook, LinkedIn or
Youtube by clicking these links



PCA Families, Level 4, 247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000
info@pcfamilies.org.au www.pcafamilies.org.au 03 9020 1833

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.