



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

WWW.PCAFAMILIES.ORG.AU

**Share and
Connect**
Thurs
29/11/23

Flexi-Funding

Better Futures

Helpine

CAP

ADDITIONAL COSTS OF CARE

INDEPENDENCE, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT

REFERRALS, ADVOCACY

CARER ASSISTANCE

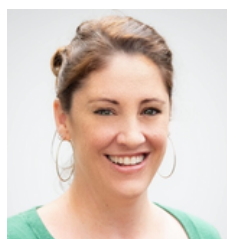


PCAF office closed for festive season from 22 December 2023 to 2 January 2024

Closed

Carers are advised to submit their flexi funding applications for items relating to "return to school" asap to prevent delays and assist the team with processing their applications. Over the December/January period, applications may take more than 21 days to process.

Share and Connect



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

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

REGISTER: via [Zoom](#)



Jenn is a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA) and highly skilled clinician who utilises the science of behaviour analysis to guide assessment, strategies and implementation approaches within a positive behaviour support and trauma informed practice lens. Jenn's practice of specialists areas of behaviour change include direct intervention with individuals and their supporting team and family to ensure the rights of the person are protected through the provision of effective and evidenced based service delivery.

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.

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

Dates: Wednesday 22nd Nov

Time: 7:30 pm-9:00 pm

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

PCAF 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 has been established with the first session commencing on Wednesday 25th October. The second session for this year is tomorrow night 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.

Allways Christmas party for families



Join Allways Playgroup for their annual festive christmas party

When: 3rd December

Time: 10.00am

Where: Possum Hollow Playground,
Beverley Rd, Heidelberg

RSVP: via email

allwaysplaygroup@gmail.com

and include childs name and age so we can organise a small gift for them.

Please bring a plate of food to share (no nuts)

Permanent carers - entitled to additional child care subsidy (ACCS)

DFFH have confirmed (in case you are not aware) that Permanent Carers are entitled to the Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS).

The information provided on the websites below state eligibility includes long term orders, and in term of ACCS that includes PCOs, as it is a general term of long-term orders.

Further information is available on the Department of Education and Services Australia websites - [Additional Child Care Subsidy - Services Australia](#)

[Changes to Additional Child Care Subsidy child wellbeing - Department of Education, Australian Government](#)

[Applying for a child wellbeing determination - Department of Education, Australian Government](#)

If you have any issues claiming the ACCS, please contact ACCS immediately for assistance.

Online training programs and resources - Emerging Minds

Emerging Minds develops mental health policy, interventions, in-person and online training, programs and resources in response to the needs of professionals, children and their families. They partner with family members, national and international organisations to implement evidence-based practice into the Australian context. Their resources are freely available at their website

<https://emergingminds.com.au/>

This month they are providing information on the following:

- In focus: Child [development](#)
- Listen to Understanding brain development on [YouTube](#), [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#) and [on our website](#).
- New resources for parents: [Connection and belonging](#)
- Upcoming [webinar](#) with MHPN: Primary health strategies for working with children who present with ADHD concerns - **When: Monday 11 December 2023, at 7:15 PM-8:30 PM (AEDT)**
- [Resources](#) for parents during separation or divorce

Training - Carer KaFE



Understanding the NDIS

Are you a carer seeking practical NDIS training to better support children you care for? Our workshop, Understanding the NDIS, is here to empower you.

During these sessions, you will gain invaluable insights into various aspects of the NDIS.

Details:

Date: Saturday 25 November 1 to 5pm

Location: Zoom Online

Registration: [here](#)

Carer Assistance Program - Therapeutic Support

Self referral available [here](#).

DFFH Flexible Funding - Funding Additional Needs

Further information available [here](#).

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Nikara's Journey - caring for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Children

Follow the story of Nikara and her non-Aboriginal foster parents as they learn how to provide the right support, respect her identity, and keep her safe and connected to her family, culture, and community.

This program provides both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Carers with the knowledge to care and support Aboriginal children.

Details:

Date: November 27 & 28, 2023 - 9.30am - 3.30pm

Location: Zoom Online

Registration: [here](#)

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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