

Email not displaying correctly?

[View this email in your browser](#)



## e-News July 2019

Keep in touch with Foster and Kinship Carers Association NT via:



### In this edition, read about:

[Message from the CEO](#)

[Advocates Update](#)

[Support Services](#)

[Upcoming training and events](#)

## Message from the CEO

Exciting times are coming up with school holidays just around the corner again. Are you ready?

We've put together a quick checklist to make things easier for you if you're travelling during the school holidays. There's nothing worse than discovering you've missed an important step, so check out [our tips](#) and save the stress.

Have you joined one of our Facebook Live Streaming events with Monalisa yet? Find out more about our live Advocacy services by joining us for our next Facebook Live session. These Facebook live sessions can be attended from the comfort of your own lounge chair at home and are a **real time** opportunity to ask questions or request an appointment time with one of our Advocates Monalisa or Roz for a confidential chat about a matter that's important to you.

Carer Support Officers, Martin (in Alice Springs) or Izzy (in the Darwin region) are the go-to people supporting foster and kinship carers. **Call 1300 030 928** to set up a time for a cuppa and a chat, they'd love to meet you!

I would like to personally invite you to attend one of our upcoming **Annual Sector Forums** in **Darwin on the 30<sup>th</sup> July**, and **Alice Springs on the 1<sup>st</sup> August**. Check out when and where [here!](#)

Ensure your voice is heard as we lead the quest for positive change for the Out of Home Care sector. There will be a panel of guest speakers to answer questions and take your feedback onboard, so come along and hear what other foster and kinship carers have to say. If you can't attend in person, send us in your questions so we can ask for answers on your behalf. This is one of the most important opportunities to make sure your voice is heard.

Hope to see you soon.

Ann & the Team

## Advocate Update

### Real Time Facebook Sessions

The first State of Origin game may have been a nationwide event, however, it did not stop our carers from joining us on the Facebook Live Stream 'Meet Your Carer Support Officers' on Wednesday 5 June. For the first time ever our Facebook Live Stream had guest appearances and this month it was none other than our Carer Support Officers Martin Harvey and Izzy Bellomo. Martin and Izzy shared their background and passion for foster and kinship carers and spoke about the different events, training and networking opportunities they are both working on to connect with our carer members. If you were not able to make it to the live stream, the video is still available to watch on our [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

Our next Facebook Live is on Wednesday 26 June from 6.30pm – 7.00pm. If you do not want to miss out on our live streams, follow these two simple steps:

- v. Like our Facebook Page [here](#)
- v. On the day of the live stream, go to our Facebook Page and get ready to say hi

If you are unable to make the live event, don't worry they are all recorded so you can watch them at a later time.

Remember to bring any questions (that are not confidential) you have for Monalisa. Also, if you have any topic suggestions for future Facebook Lives,

please email them through to [media@fkca.org.au](mailto:media@fkca.org.au)

## **Going away these school holidays, have you ticked off these items yet?**

The midyear school holidays in the Northern Territory are fast approaching and many foster and kinship carers may have travel plans.

Here are a few reminders about Territory Families travel policy requirements:

Territory Families may provide financial support for a child or young person in care to accompany the Carer family on interstate or overseas vacations. It is essential for carers to discuss this with the child's Case Manager first as it is considered on a case by case basis.

The CEO of Territory Families has a responsibility to know where a child is and who they are with.

Authorised foster and kinship carers can take children in their care on trips by car within the Northern Territory without seeking prior approval.

If the trip includes a single night stay, approval is not required but the Case Manager must be informed prior to travel.

If the trip involves a high risk activity i.e. hang-gliding, carers must gain permission from the child's Case Manager for the child to participate.

All other travel within Australia requires consent from the child's or young person's Case Manager including air travel within the NT.

### **Overseas travel**

Authorised foster and kinship carers require consent from the CEO of Territory Families for children and young people in care to travel overseas.

Territory Families, as a child or young person's legal guardian are also required to hold children's and young persons in care passports for safekeeping when they are not in use for travel purposes.



## Support Services

### **Palmerston Carer-Parent Group every second Wednesday!**

Come join our Carer-Parent Group for a chance to catch your breath, connect with other carers and let the kids run around. Meeting from 9-10:30am every second Wednesday, FKCA will shout you a cuppa!

**Next dates:** 3 July, 17 July, 31 July

**Location:** Playshack, The Hub - Shop 7, 3 Maluka Street, Palmerston  
Discounted entry for children \$7 – BYO socks!

[RSVP here](#)

### **Darwin Carer-Parent Group coming soon!**

>> Watch this space for details <<

### **Martin is our new Carer Support Officer for the Southern Region**

[Here's a little bit about him:](#)



“My background has been varied between construction and NGO’s working in community development and HIV/AIDS relief. In my spare time, I am also a emergency services volunteer, working with amazing people who sacrifice their time and energy to help those in need.

Currently I am studying my honours degree in anthropology, where I believe that cultural connections and grounding are important for every child and carer, and hope to build this into my practice.

I’m really excited to be working in the Southern Region and based in Alice Springs, and want to connect with our foster and kinship carer community. We have some incredibly caring volunteers who share their homes and families with children who need a safe, caring environment to thrive. I’m actually humbled by the love and support our incredible foster and kinship carers put into caring for foster children. I want to help them make a real difference in the lives of foster kids, and make their foster care journey a positive one.

Call me if there’s anything I can do to help out, come in for a chat over a cuppa”.

### **Who’s heard of the new Community Book Depository?**

Located above the food court at Casuarina Square, the Community Book Depository has lounges, games, magazines and books. Kids need a break or

do you just need some quiet time for 10 minutes? Stop by for a game of Connect 4, read a book or relax on the couches.



## Upcoming Training and Events



# SECTOR FORUM

Come along and have  
your voice heard



## FORUM: Foster and Kinship Carers Association NT Forum

We invite you to our Foster and Kinship Carers annual sector forum.

As the Peak Body, Foster & Kinship Carers Association NT are facilitating its annual forum for all foster and kinship carers and partner organisations. It's a great way for all carers and partners to learn from one another and shape the direction of our changing sector.

Now is your chance to champion positive change for foster and kinship carers, children and young people in Out of Home care.

Can't be there? Send your questions for our panel to [info@fkca.org.au](mailto:info@fkca.org.au)

### Darwin event details:

**Date:** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July

**Time:** 9am – 12pm and 5pm – 7:30pm **both sessions are the same, so only attend one**

**Venue:** Palmerston Recreation Centre, Community Room 2, 11 The Boulevard, Palmerston

**Cost:** Free

**RSVP:** Required for catering purposes - [book here](#)

### Alice Spring event details:

**Date:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August

**Time:** 5pm – 7:30pm

**Venue:** Araluen Arts Centre, Witchetty's Room, 61 Larapinta Dr, Araluen, Alice Springs

**Cost:** Free event with onsite parking

**RSVP:** Required for catering purposes - [book here](#)

## Online Carer Training

Our kinship and foster carers are busy people. We know that not everyone lives in Darwin and Alice Springs so from time to time, we will link you up with some online training that can support you in your journey, no matter your location.

### “Dealing with Stress” Module:

As a carer you may be faced with some difficult and stressful times, and you need to be take steps to look after your own wellbeing. Carer Gateway’s training on “Dealing with Stress” is targeted to anyone but particularly keeping in mind carers of complex behaviours and disabilities.

It’s a simple but important training. Take some time to check in with yourself. View the [training here](#).

>> Time required: 15 to 30 minutes

>> Don’t forget to save or print the contents for later use.

Let us know how you go! Email [info@fkca.org.au](mailto:info@fkca.org.au)

## Important dates for June/July 2019:

### **Australia wide**

Wed 26th June - Real-time Advocacy, [Facebook Live](#). 6:30pm ACST

Wed 31st July - Real-time Advocacy, [Facebook Live](#). 6:30pm ACST

### **Darwin**

Wed 3rd July - [Carer-Parent Group](#), Palmerston. 9-10:30am.

Wed 17th July - [Carer-Parent Group](#), Palmerston. 9-10:30am.

Wed 31st July - [Carer-Parent Group](#), Palmerston. 9-10:30am.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

**000**

**TERRITORY FAMILIES  
AFTER HOURS & CHILD  
PROTECTION HOTLINE**

**1 800 700 250**

 [Share](#)  [Tweet](#)  [Forward](#)

**Copyright © 2019 Foster & Kinship Carers Association NT, All rights reserved.**

Our mailing address is: PO Box 42716, Casuarina NT 0811

Darwin Office: 25 Damabila Drive, Lyons NT 0810. Ph: 8945 3364

Alice Springs Office: 10/82 Todd Street, Alice Springs NT 0870. Ph:8952 9202

[remove me from this list](#) [update preferences](#)

This email was sent to [media@fostercarersnt.org.au](mailto:media@fostercarersnt.org.au)

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Foster Carers Association NT Incorporated · PO Box 42716 · Casuarina, NT 0811 · Australia

