

Foster and Kinship Carers Association Tasmania Newsletter



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

- Recent news
- Upcoming Events
- Circle of Security
- Big Day Out - Save the date!

Message from the CEO

Hi Carers



I know we are all operating in challenging and uncertain times at present, so please call or email if FKAT can support in anyway.

I hope you find our autumn edition of our newsletter informative with some training and upcoming events. At the present, I am trying to find our Association new premises in the northern suburbs of Hobart, so hopefully that will be finalised in the next couple of months. We welcome a new Chair, Mrs Jenny Beverley to the role and to date, Jenny has had a long connection with the Association. Mrs Maggie Phillips left the role after many years and a heartfelt thanks goes out to Maggie for all of her efforts to the Tasmanian community and Association. Mrs Alana Mason also joins the Board as a Southern Representative and we look forward to welcoming Alana's insights, experience and wisdom to the Board composition. The Board has appointed at the March Board meeting another independent Community member, Mr Oscar Norton, who has extensive experience in the community sector and resides in Launceston. Oscar looks forward to meeting carers face to face at the Big Day out in May.

The Big Day Out will again be a fantastic event at the end of May, so I look forward to seeing as many carers and families there as possible. Last year we had nearly 200 people there and we all had a wonderful time.

Keep doing an amazing job,

Kim

Message from the Chair.



Hi Carers,

As I move into my new role on the FKAT Board, I look forward to the new challenges ahead of me.

Firstly I must thank Maggie for all the work she has put into FKAT and much more not noticed behind the scenes.

I welcome Alana onto the board as a Southern Representative, and all the continuing members who move FKAT forward into 2022 and beyond with enthusiasm and professionalism.

I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can, and will endeavour to get to as many meetings as possible, the first, our board meeting as we consolidate this year's trainings and special guest speakers, one of our first being 'Legal Aid', we will also have our First Aid trainings to be held statewide later in the year.

Our FKAT Facebook page will have trainings listed and other updates such as carer connect events, so please keep an eye out there too.

Thanks to everyone who is welcoming and supporting me in my role.

Until next newsletter, in this fast and ever changing world. Thank you for all your do and take care.

Jen

Thank you Maggie

Foster and Kinship Association Tasmania would like to say a big Thank you to Maggie Phillips who has served on the FKAT board for 21 Years.

Maggie began her journey with FKAT in the year 2000 and has been instrumental in building the community of carers in the North-West that still meet regularly. Maggie was elevated to Chair of the board in 2015 and served as Chair for 6 years. Maggie has been a faithful volunteer and put her heart and soul into the little and the big tasks that she has undertaken for the organisation.

Maggie's passion has always been to see carers supported in their roles looking after venerable young people and this will not change now that Maggie is no longer on the board, you will still see her friendly face at FKAT functions and carer connects. Maggie continues to represent carers around our State through her role as a FAST delegate and as a member of The National Collective.

On behalf of Kim, Jen and the FKAT board we would like to again thank Maggie for her years of dedication and commitment on the board and wish Maggie the very best with her future endeavors.

With love,
Kim, Jen and the FKAT board.



THE FASD Forum '22

EDUCATION. CONVERSATION. COMMUNITY.

A virtual conference hosted by **NOFASD Australia** with support from Presenting Partner – Australian Government Department of Health



The FASD Forum '22

NOFASD Australia is presenting The FASD Forum '22 - a major 2-day online conference on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th May, with the support of Presenting Partner - Australian Government Department of Health.

For those who are keen to learn more about FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) this event provides the ideal opportunity to hear from experts in research and experts in lived experience – from around Australia and the world.

Topics on the agenda will include some of the most challenging issues for parents and carers, including child to parent violence and abuse and highly sexualized behaviours. Experienced presenters will outline behavioural strategies and interventions that can assist. Experts in health research will outline some of the latest developments in relation to this widespread disability.

Worried you won't be able to attend all the conference sessions due to other commitments? No need to worry about this – NOFASD understands the time pressures and demands on our FASD community. Everyone who registers to participate in The FASD Forum '22 will receive a code after the conference is over which will enable you to log-in to view recordings of any of the sessions that you may have missed joining live (or which you'd like to view again). Post-conference access will be open for 3 months after the conference so you will be able to view (or review) sessions at a time and pace that suits you.

Early Bird discounted registrations for the online conference close on Friday 1st April.

Parents and Carers of a child with either diagnosed or suspected FASD are eligible for further discounted registration rates.

To view the full details of the conference program and register to attend see the dedicated conference website: <https://pheedloop.com/FASDFORUM22/site/home/>



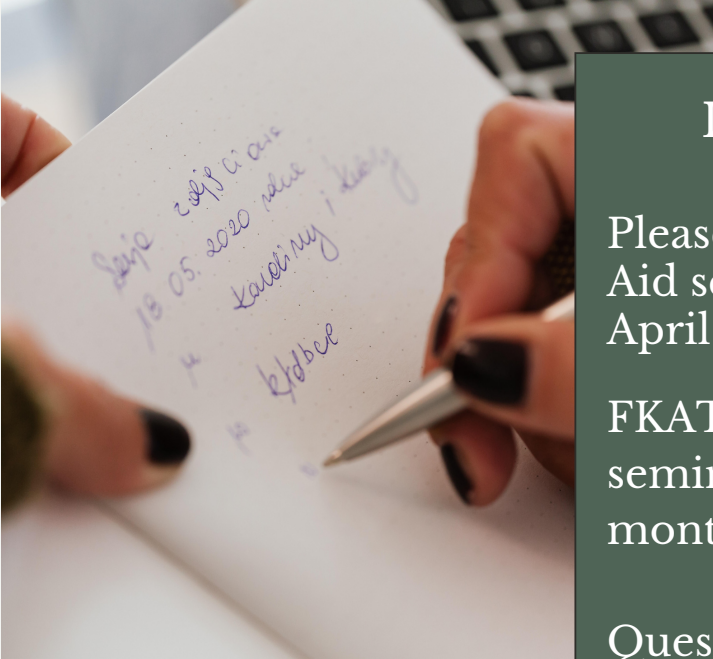
**FINDING WAYS FORWARD:
CELEBRATING IDENTITY, CULTURE, FAMILIES AND
COMMUNITY**

IFCO DARWIN 22 -25 SEPTEMBER 2022

The IFCO 2022 Conference is a particularly special one as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of International Foster Care Organisation and the 10th Anniversary of Foster and Kinship Carers Association NT Incorporated! IFCO is an international organisation with a sole aim to support family-based foster and kinship care for out-of-home children and young people. IFCO is committed to improving the lives of children in foster and kinship care by supporting the children, their carers, the professionals who work with them and the policymakers.

FKCANT is an independent, non-government, not-for-profit organisation supporting foster and kinship carers and strengthening the out-of-home care sectors. The core vision for FKCANT is for the voice of carers to be recognised, valued, and respected. FKCANT is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by embedding and modelling child safe practices. Through the partnership with IFCO and FKCANT, the vision that children in alternative care across the world will have the choice to live in family-based care, and be given the best opportunity to grow and prosper has truly come into focus with these organisations on their milestone celebrations.

Upcoming Events



LEGAL AID SEMINARS

Please see attached flyers for free Legal Aid seminars across the State in March, April and May.

FKAT are proud to offer these free seminars in each region in the coming months.

Questions are welcome prior to seminars and we look forward to hearing from you.

CARER CONNECT

Please join us at our Carer Connect events at the following venues:
10am-12noon

North West - Wednesday, April 20th,
May 18th.

North - Friday, March 25th, April
15th, May 20th.

South - Tuesday, May 17th,



FOR MORE VISIT: www.fkat.org.au

Upcoming Events

Meet & Greet Lionel Walters 9th of May



Please join FKAT in welcoming Lionel Walters into his new role as Statewide Manager, Out-of-home Care (OoHC and Adoptions, Permanency and After Care Support. (APACS)
Come along and meet Lionel and enjoy a catered morning tea.



SOUTHERN CARER CONNECT OPPORTUNITY

Where: FKAT Rokeby office. 4 Hart Place, Rokeby.

When: Monday 9th May, 2022

Time: 11am-1pm

Please RSVP by 25th April to KIM AT ceo@fcatas.org.au

FOR MORE VISIT: www.fkat.org.au

Upcoming Events



MEET AND GREET OPPORTUNITY

CLAIRE LOVELL

FKAT warmly welcome all Kinship, foster, and Grandparent carers to join us at a meet and greet with Executive Director of Children and families, Communities Tasmania, Claire Lovell.

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY, 2022 / 10 AM - 12 PM
FKAT OFFICE, PENGUIN

Please RSVP by the 4th of May to Anne Bailey on 0477 755 593
or email ceofcatas.org.au

We look forward to seeing you all there!

CARER Q & A SESSION

Dr Julian Watchorn will be available to answer questions from carers, and offer advice and information about carer related issues. You are welcome to come along, sit in and listen to the discussion.

10.30 - 12.30
7 APRIL

FKAT Centre
4 Hart Place, ROKEBY



DR JULIAN WATCHORN
Clinical Psychologist

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Managing challenging behaviour.
- Negotiating Transfer of Guardianship.
- Finding a psychologist.
- Upcoming training programs.
- Where to find resources for carers.

 julian@fkat.org.au

 fkat.org.au



Legal Aid information session

With Sally Hunt
at the Tailrace
Centre, Riverside.

March
25th

10am to
12noon

Please join
FKAT & Sally for a free
legal Aid information session
in Launceston

To register, email
anita.louise@live.com.au or
ceofcatas.org.au
or contact 0451 309 775.

*Due to Covid-19, places are
strictly limited so please RSVP
by Monday 7th March.

Please submit questions for
the forum to Anita by close of
business on Monday 7th
March. Consider the following
before submission:

- Informal care arrangements.
- Grandparents raising grandchildren.
- Rights and responsibilities.
- Foster care legal matters such as guardianship/adoption.
- Matters pertaining to Children, Young persons and Their Families Act 1997.

Legal Aid information session

With Simone Watson
at the FKAT Rokeby
office, 4 Hart
Place.

May
17th

10am to
12noon

Please join
FKAT & Simone for a free
legal Aid information session
in Hobart.

To register, email
ceofcatas.org.au
or contact Jen 0418 850 008
(leave a message if no answer).

*Due to Covid-19, places are
strictly limited so please RSVP

Please submit questions for
the forum to Jen by close of
business on Monday 2nd May.
Consider the following before
submission:

- Informal care arrangements.
- Grandparents raising grandchildren.
- Rights and responsibilities.
- Foster care legal matters such as guardianship/adoption.
- Matters pertaining to Children, Young persons and Their Families Act 1997.



TANA
Trauma Awareness Network Australia
Leading upstream prevention
of complex trauma from the grassroots



FKAT proudly support upcoming forums and workshops for anyone who interacts with children 0-12 years of age in the Burnie area. Forums are being held by TANA (Trauma Awareness Network Tasmania), in collaboration with Catholic Care and Communities for Children.

Your community needs you now more than ever

Are you open to becoming a positive influence on the young people you know? Do you interact in any capacity with people in the Burnie regional area, aged 0-12 years? You may be a parent, an uncle, a librarian or retailer, a coach, a babysitter, Outside School Hours Carer, or counsellor. If you are a teacher, a doctor, a social worker or part of a faith community, a volunteer, a Rotarian, a nurse, a corrections officer, a sports club president or receptionist.

Do you have any concerns about the wellbeing of young people in the Burnie region? You may simply know someone who has children, or you are tuned in to the global concerns about the future.

**TANA's Burnie Community Forum Tuesday 22nd March 2022 11:30am – 2:00pm
(including light lunch)**

Register here: <https://drct-tana.prod.supporterhub.net/pages/burnie-communities-for-children-forum-2022>

TANA Burnie Workshop 1 – Tuesday 29th March 2022

Choose ONE that works for you:

9:30-11:30am

12:30-2:30pm

6:00 -8:00pm

TANA Burnie Workshop 2 – Tuesday 12th April 2022

Choose ONE that works for you:

9:30-11:30am

12:30-2:30pm

6:00 -8:00pm

The Point @ West Park Oval

Our TANA Workshop Package will deepen your understanding and support you in putting the information to work in a safe and connected environment.

This package offers you 3 sessions for learning and integration:

1. Burnie Communities for Children Forum provides the foundational information and key strategies you can start using right away.
2. Workshop 1 provides a space to unpack how the content of the forum relates to your context and decide on action steps you can take to use this information in the process of bringing about positive change in your life, family, workplace.
3. Workshop 2 provides an opportunity to report back on how you went with implementing your strategy over a two-week time period. Bring your insights and questions and experience the rich unfolding of deepened understanding that comes from sharing TANA talk, real talk.

Join the network and support TANA's mission <https://www.tana.net.au/>

Only 60 places available for the TANA Workshop Package
(20 per workshop)

Register here today and we look forward to working with you:

<https://drct-tana.prod.supporterhub.net/pages/burnie-communities-for-children-forum-2022>

Current COVID regulations will apply.

Circle of Security

Speech Pathology Tasmania
presents

CIRCLE OF SECURITY PROGRAM™

with Rosie Martin

Term 2 program
Tuesdays 8:00 - 9:30pm
May 10 - June 28

For more information
www.spt.com.au
ph. 6234 5717
programs@spt.com.au



8 sessions
online via zoom
small group

Circle Of Security Parenting Program – free training for carers

Speech Pathology Tasmania is thrilled to partner with the Foster and Kinship Carers Association of Tasmania to offer the Circle of Security Program to grandparents raising grandchildren, informal kin, and Foster & Kinship Carers.

This program explores the development of connection, relationship and attachment – which are also foundations for language development, social skills development and good mental health. SPT has been running these sessions in their clinic for around 10 years. “We love the warm, accepting, non-judgmental, non-blaming approach to exploring attachment.” Says facilitator Rosie Martin.

This is a valuable training opportunity with learnings that can be applied to all relationships at any age or stage. The course involves meeting in a small group online via zoom, once a week for 8 sessions. FKAT will fund each participant to undertake the course. A group specifically for FKAT participants will take place on Wed mornings during term 3. FKAT will also sponsor places in the term 2 Tues evening group which is open to the public.

Term 2: 8:00pm-9:30pm Tuesdays, May 10-June 28

Term 3: 10:30am - 12:30pm Wednesdays, August 3 – September 21

More information about the program can be found at www.spt.com.au.

To register your interest please email programs@spt.com.au or phone Renee at SPT on 6234 5717.



Rock Climbing

Food Van

BIG DAY OUT

Craft

Free
activities

SATURDAY MAY 14TH

YMCA KINGS MEADOWS

Lucky Door
Prizes

11AM-2PM

Carer relaxation
Zone

Ninja Warrior
course

Toddler gym

RSVP to ceo@fcatas.org.au or text Anita on
0451 309 775 by Monday, May 2nd.