MARCH 2024

Foster & Kinship Carers Association Tasmania Newsletter

AUTUMN EDITION

March 2024 | EMAIL: ceo@fkat.org.au | MOB: 0499 149 960



I hope everyone has had a good start to the year. It only feels like Christmas has just passed and now it's Easter!

A few things to update you all on.



I mentioned several years ago that a Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework Project team met for the first time to discuss a framework. I have represented FKAT on the project team over the past 2 years with this project, as well as representing carers. I am pleased to see that this framework has been finalised and implemented. The Independent Regulator is independent from the Tasmanian Government and reports to parliament, not a department, and oversees a wide range of Tasmanian organisations that engage with children and young people, assists organisations to comply with the Child and Youth Safe Standards and the Universal Principle. The Regulator's (Ms Louise Coe) role is to promote and regulate Tasmanian organisations to be compliant with the Child and Youth Safe Organisations framework. We wish Ms Coe every success in her new role.

The next important update is that in mid-March, I had the opportunity of joining some carers to discuss your basic allowance and advocate for this to be increased to keep up with the cost of living, with department representatives and Jo Doyle from WLF. We are hoping that all our voices were heard and that there will be an increase this year. Thank you to Maggie and Jen for arranging the meeting and to those carers that attended.

I also had the opportunity a couple of weeks ago to do an interview with Leon Compton on the ABC, joined by the Commissioner for Children and Young People and the Head of the Public Sector Union to discuss the state of play within the OOHC sector and what is desperately needed in Tasmania to support the important role carers play in our community. I have had a subsequent conversation with a Labour Minister following on from this interview to discuss important issues that need to be addressed.

On a final note, if anyone is interested in attending the next National Conference which will be held in Melbourne on 9 August 2024 to 11 August 2024, please let me know by 30 June if not sooner.

Wishing all carers a safe and restful Easter break. Cheers, Kim

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT EVENTS AND TRAINING



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Message from our President

Hi Carers,

I would like to officially welcome you all to the new year, 2024! I hope that we are all feeling refreshed and rested after the summer holiday break and ready to tackle the new year ahead. FKAT are offering more valuable training statewide with Dr Julian Watchorn this year (see attached flyer) so please save those dates in your diaries. FKAT will also announce upcoming First Aid training so if your certificate has expired or you would like to do a refresher, please keep an eye out in our next newsletter when dates are released. I look forward to meeting up with as many carers as I can this year in the Claremont office and also at Statewide events. It is going to be an excellent year.

Wishing you and your families are happy and safe Easter. Jen

Christmas Functions Well Attended

FKAT were thrilled to host over 120 carers across the state for our Christmas celebration lunches in all regions. A very big thank you to those who came along and enjoyed the end of year festivities. FKAT board and staff appreciate that it is a very busy time of year for carers and it is so great that we could all get together to celebrate the year that was 2023.



Carers in Launceston celebrating at Kings Bridge Restaurant

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The National Kinship, Permanent & Foster Care Conference 2024

Sponsorships available

FKAT would kindly like to extend an invitation to any carer who is wanting to attend The National Kinship, Permanent & Foster Care Conference 2024 in Melbourne this August.

FKAT can offer 15 sponsorships to the value of \$750 per carer to go towards the cost of accommodation, flights and the conference.

Please email Kim by 30th June at ceo@fkat.org.au if you are interested in attending.

TRAINING 2024 WITH DR JULIAN WATCHORN

Training in each region will begin at 10:00am and conclude at 12:30pm.

Private Consultation begins at 1:00pm and concludes at 2:30pm.

North

Friday May 17th
Tailrace Centre, Riverside.

Tuesday July 23rd Tailrace Centre, Riverside.

North-West

Wednesday May 15th Penguin Office

Thursday May 16th - 10:00am - 12:30pm. Informal Kinship training (all welcome). Paranaple Convention Centre, Devonport.

Wednesday July 24th Penguin Office

South

Monday May 20th Claremont Office

Friday August 2nd Claremont Office

CLAREMONT OFFICE SUPPORT SESSIONS

Julian will also be in the Claremont office in Hobart for carers to drop in and chat through personal matters including care concerns.

9:30am-2:00pm

Fridays:

5th April
3rd May
7th June
6th Sept
25th October
6th December



PUT THE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

For more info email Julian at julian@psych.co



THE NATIONAL

Kinship, Permanent & Foster Care

CONFERENCE 2024



Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

Conference:

Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

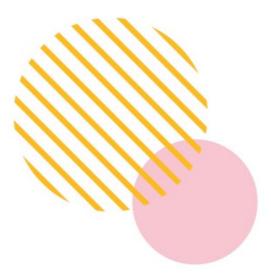
Gala Dinner Location:

Melbourne Arts Centre









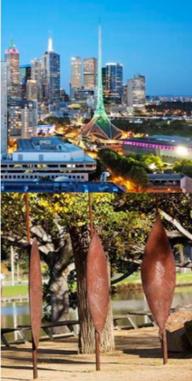


Conference Organisers

Think Business Events ncc@thinkbusinessevents.com.au +61 3 9417 1350









CONECTION EVENT.



A free event for children & young people with a care experience, their carers, and other children in the household.

Children & young people under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Dont forget to bring a bottle of water

When: Friday 5th April 2024

Where: Moonah Arts Center

(23-27 Albert Road, Moonah)

Time: 4-6pm

RSVP is essential as spaces

are limited:

Use the QR provided or phone 6223 7749

SCAN OR TAP HERE TO RSVP





