



Term 1 | 2017

# Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers – SA Inc

CFC-SA is the peak body for foster and kinship carers in South Australia

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*Advocate*

*Support*

*Connect*

*Inform*

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## You're invited! CFC-SA FORUM FOR CARERS

**Date:** Friday 24 March 2017

**Time:** 9:45am for 10:00am start – to 2:30pm

Free event with lunch provided – Bookings essential  
Children welcome if supervised

**Location:** Leilani Room, Morphettville Racecourse  
79 Morphett Road, Morphettville SA

*“Children are our most  
valuable natural  
resource”*

*Herbert Hoover*



**Agenda:** 10:00am  
10:30am



Welcome

### **OPG Information Session**

Robyn Skilbeck, Department for Child Protection and Carers sharing their experiences of OPG then forming a panel to answer your questions

### **CFC-SA General Meeting**

CFC-SA Members are invited to cast their vote to adopt a new constitution

LUNCH

### **Q&A with Cathy Taylor**

Chief Executive, Department for Child Protection  
Close



11:30am

12:00pm

1:00pm

2:30pm

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## **CONTACT US**

*support@cfc-sa.org.au*

*Freecall 1800 732 272*

*PO Box 2052*

*Prospect SA 5082*

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**Please RSVP your attendance and any special dietary needs  
by Thursday 16 March 2017**

RSVP via email: [admin@cfc-sa.org.au](mailto:admin@cfc-sa.org.au) or phone: 1800 732 272

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## CFC-SA ...

*... services are available to all foster and kinship carers (Carers) in South Australia*

*... works to promote the voice of Carers – and to ensure Carers' voices are heard*

*... aims to ensure Carers' rights are promoted and protected, alongside the rights of children and young people*

*... is preparing to expand, grow and improve services – to do more for and with Carer families across South Australia*



*Donna enjoying a cuddle from a piglet at the Drive-In Family Event!*

## CFC-SA's response to the draft *Children and Young People (Safety) Bill 2016 (SA)*

CFC-SA has supported the introduction of new legislation and celebrates the inclusion and acknowledgement of Carers as an essential part of the child protection system.

The importance of new legislation cannot be understated – *getting it right from the outset* will see children and young people entering the care system have the best possible opportunities and see Carers enjoy legal protection, ensure greater stability and reduce the expense to the system through improved recruitment and retention and less reliance on residential care services.

CFC-SA has submitted further proposed changes to the “Bill” in efforts to address, protect and improve Carers' rights, in particular:

- Carers to be heard absolute, subject to the best interests of the child or young person, and not discretionary;
- allow for urgent hearings at SACAT in relation to matters that arise from the new legislation; and
- ensure Carers are not at risk of being imprisoned for any term, or fined for any sum, beyond those imposed on the general public.

Thank you to all those who supported CFC-SA's response to the draft Bill via the YourSay website and through other submissions.

## Membership

CFC-SA aims to improve the lives of children and young people in care through provision of services addressing the key themes: **Advocate – Support – Connect – Inform**.

CFC-SA's services value and support Carer families to sustain strong and positive relationships in homes across South Australia.

CFC-SA is supported by Members to progress, improve and promote foster and kinship care, and to ensure Carers are recognised as vital partners within the child protection sector.

CFC-SA welcomes new members and offers opportunities for Carers and other interested persons to:

- receive invitations to \*\*special events
- be notified of developments occurring across the sector
- share views, ideas and suggestions
- contribute to the future of CFC-SA

Membership is free and you can join us online at [www.cfc-sa.org.au](http://www.cfc-sa.org.au) or by calling our Freecall number 1800 732 272.

## \*\*Family Event - Drive in

Over 70 car loads enjoyed CFC-SA's family event at the Gepps Cross Drive-In held on 14 January 2017. Member families arrived early to enjoy Old MacDonald's Petting Zoo and Mad Hatters airbrush tattoos and had opportunities to connect and gather together before the movie “Sing” (an unscheduled change from Red Dog True Blue).

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**THANK YOU** to the Department for Child Protection (DCP) and agencies for distribution of this newsletter to all registered Carers