

ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21



CONNECTING FOSTER & KINSHIP CARERS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

OUR CULTURAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CF&KC-SA wishes to acknowledge the traditional owners of country throughout South Australia and recognise continuing cultural heritage, beliefs and connection to lands, waters and communities.

We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors and to Elders past, present and emerging.

CF&KC-SA supports the Uluru Statement From the Heart and the need for a constitutionally entrenched First Nations Voice.

Always was, Always will be.

COVER ARTWORK

"LOVE" by Mali Isabel

2021

This artwork was developed by Mali Isabel, an emerging Arabana/Kokatha artist, specifically for Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers South Australia as part of their reconciliation journey. This beautiful piece was unveiled at our May 2021 open Board Meeting as part of our reconciliation journey.

Mali's artwork represents love and kindness and reflects the journey for Foster and Kinship Carers including feelings of empathy, understanding, respect, sadness, struggle, the ups and the downs.

"The centre area symbolises love and kindness, something Carers and workers are full of. The small areas of different colours that fill the canvas represent all the emotions that come with the role of working in this field. Empathy, understanding, respect along with sadness and struggles with mental and physical health. The darker coloured areas symbolise the ups and downs and the positives and negatives. Throughout the artwork can be seen symbols representing stars, meeting places and connectivity" – Mali Isabel



Mali's artwork launch (L-R: Fiona Endacott, Mali Isabel, Amanda Wall, Megan Hender)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It is my great pleasure to present the CF&KC – SA Chairperson's report for 20/21. It has been another challenging, but good, year for our organisation.

In last year's report I noted that

- in 2018/19, our first year as a funded organisation, we were effectively in start-up mode, and
- In 2019/20 we faced one of the most challenging years in history – with fires and a global pandemic.

With the fires over, and the pandemic becoming increasingly being treated as business as usual, 20/21 has been a year of consolidation, and growth.

Here are some of the highlights.

- Our membership continues to grow. As at 30 June 21 our membership was 987. (it is now over 1000) We are grateful to you all for putting your trust in us.
- We continue to provide individual advocacy for an increasing number of Carers. This work is hard and, at times, unrelenting. Our advocates and the Carers they work with, are often faced with the same issues arising again and again. I am deeply impressed by the fact that they respond not by becoming dispirited, but by becoming increasingly passionate. I am grateful for their commitment.
- We have (with funds secured from a Law Foundation grant to employ a Legal Consultant) built relationships with a number of lawyers and legal services. We now have Memoranda of Understanding with the Aboriginal Rights Movement, the Women's Legal Service of SA and Southern Community Justice Service and a short list of lawyers and barrister who are willing to work for Carers either at a discounted rate or pro bono. This work is part of a long term strategy. Our core funding (which comes from the Department for Child Protection) does not fund us to provide legal advocacy. This limitation means that Carers facing tribunal hearings are sometimes unrepresented (by contrast to the department who are represented by Crown Law). Our response to this evident unfairness has been to reach out to other organisations and individuals on behalf of our members in an effort to find Carers the representation they deserve. This work is ongoing.
- We have continued our behind-the-scenes lobbying – including with government, opposition and cross bench Members of Parliament. I think we can safely say most relevant MP's now have a good understanding of the challenges Carers face and of the work of our organisation. This work is also part of a longer strategy – with 2022 being an election year for all levels of government in SA, and the year in which the Child and Young Persons (Safety) Act will face its first full review.
- We have continued our association with the Bradford Institute and in 20/21 facilitated 91 Carers to complete a Diploma of Community Services or a Graduate Certificate in Community Services. Again this work has a strategic purpose. Our intention is to provide Carers with qualifications that honour and recognise their incredible existing skills. It is also to equip Carers – who often set aside their own needs – with a qualification that can lead to paid work in the

sector (either during or after being a Carer). Carers also report that the qualification gives them both the confidence and the language they need to talk to, and be heard by, the department – again helping address the imbalance of power inherent in the Carer/departments relationship.

- In June 21 we hosted the hugely successful virtual National Foster and Kinship Carer Conference. The decision to 'go virtual' was not taken lightly and a number of us were concerned that a virtual conference could not replicate the 'in-person' experience. As it turned out we were blown away by what the technology made possible. Many delegates were from rural and regional SA and Australia more broadly – who generally consider city conferences beyond their reach. And it allowed us to include some incredible speakers from other parts of the world. But the thing that most impressed me, was the ability of the conference platform to allow for Carer – Carer communication. It was a privilege to see and hear the way Carers shared ideas and tips – and provided (in some cases life-changing) support to fellow Carers across the airwaves. It was an unforgettable experience.

That brings me to my thanks

- To our staff. The work doesn't let up, we continued to navigate the challenges of COVID, and this year we had the conference too. It was an incredible effort. Particular thanks to Fiona Endacott (our CEO) and Nat Baron (our Admin and Events Co-ordinator) for work on the conference. Thanks too to our advocates (Sharee Borlace, Dion Zisos, Tandanya Allain, Alicia Ladiwala and Isabella Furnari) and our Legal Consultant (Jackie Nevin) for tirelessly working for our Carer members.
- To our board: Particular thanks to Hastings Chikuse (our Treasurer) and Jan Stevens (our Deputy Chair) – both of whom left the board this year due to other commitment. And huge thanks to the rest of the board Kelly Mathews, Terry Harris Plane, Dr Sara McLean, Emma Anderson, Sarah Ventress, Cynthia Fielding and (new board member) Phoebe Zander. (Phoebe is an experienced Carer with extensive expertise in providing care for children with a disability. She is currently serving as our Treasurer.) We deeply appreciate the (unpaid and dedicated) time and effort all Board members have given (and continue to give) in the service of Carers.
- To our volunteers: We host a number of students each year – social work students on placement and more recently research students - all of whom add considerable value to the organisation. Thanks to Alisha Ladiwala, Amanda Quince and Emma Feagan. We are also grateful to have had Sonja Brown as our Youth Consultant on our Board, bringing with them their lived experience in the care system. We have recently welcomed Felicity Graham in this role for the 2021/22 year.
- And finally to our members: I remain inspired by the work you do and consider it an honour to Chair your organisation. Thank you for the opportunity.

Megan Hender

Chairperson



CEO REPORT

What an incredible year 2020/21 was for our organisation. As CEO, I am immensely proud to share the incredible successes our staff and volunteers achieved for the South Australian Carer Community, ensuring the Carer voice is heard and their rights upheld.

We spent the past 12 months continuing to establish ourselves as the peak representative body for SA foster and kinship carers, raising awareness of our organisation and sharing the outcomes we achieve for the Carer community.

Our talented Carer Advocacy Team continued to support foster and kinship Carers have their voice heard and be consulted as part of the vital care team for their children and young people. We delivered multiple information sessions to the Carer community on topics such as Carer payments and cyber safety, and published ten brilliant Carer guides brimming with crucial information our members requested. Thank you Sharee, Tandanya, Isabella, Alicia and Dion for your passion, commitment and incredible skill in supporting our Carers so wonderfully.

Despite a few COVID lockdown setbacks, we navigated multiple opportunities to still connect Carers together, through our Family Fun Event at AFL MAX, Fringe Festival tickets, our reference groups, weekly emails packed to the gills with important information and the innovative virtual circus shows generously donated for our membership to enjoy.

Behind the scenes Natalie Baron, our hardworking Administration & Events Coordinator found these incredible opportunities for Carers, and worked double time to ensure tickets were shared and memories made for our Carer families.

We increased our ability to understand legislation and the legal rights afforded to our Carer membership, thanks to the dedicated efforts from Jacquie Nevin, our Legal Consultant. We have supported many carers with their reviewable decisions paperwork, ombudsman applications and complaints processes thanks to Jacquie's know how. This is complex terrain for our non-legal team, but an area we are bravely and confidently traversing for, and with, Carers.

We have fearlessly embarked on making our presence felt on both a state and national level, with regard to legislation amendment and systemic advocacy. We have met with SA politicians in both the lower and upper house to make the case for Carer rights, particularly with regards to the Care Concerns process and the right to review. These steps are incremental but are moving in the right direction. I look forward to seeing how it unfolds over the next year.

On a national level, CF&KC-SA has co-partnered with our interstate peaks, successfully forming a National Foster & Kinship Care Collective consisting of the peak bodies in WA, NT, QLD, Vic, Tasmania and SA. This collective is dedicated to lifting the national presence of foster and kinship carers, and executing much needed systemic change, lobbying for financial security for our community.

And lastly, we delivered the very first fully virtual National Foster & Kinship Care Conference over 2 full days in June 2021. We welcomed over 400 delegates to attend our conference, filled with incredible speakers, break out rooms and fabulous keynotes

presentations. It was a new and innovative delivery of a conference traditionally run in a face to face manner. It was a calculated risk, but one that was worth the effort. Carer feedback was fantastic, engagement in topic content was fast and furious and delegates left feeling connected and informed. An absolute home run for our organisation and the wider Carer community.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Board and our Members for guiding our work. Your voice informs the work we do. We are here for the Carer community and we thank you.

Fiona Endacott

Chief Executive Officer



OUR PEOPLE

BOARD

NAME	POSITION	DATES
Megan Hender	Chairperson	From May 2017
Jan Stevens	Vice Chairperson	From January 2019
Kelly Mathews	Secretary	From November 2017
Phoebe Zander	Treasurer	From February 2021
Terry Harris Plane	Board member	From August 2017
Dr. Sara McLean	Board member	From April 2019
Emma Anderson	Board member	From April 2020
Sarah Ventress	Board Member	From April 2020
Sonja Brown	Board Youth Consultant	From April 2020
<i>Hastings Chikuse</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>To November 2020</i>
<i>Cynthia Fielding</i>	<i>Board Member</i>	<i>To April 2021</i>

EMPLOYEES

NAME	POSITION	DATE JOINED
Fiona Endacott	Chief Executive Officer	November 2017
Natalie Baron	Administration & Events Coordinator	December 2016
Sharee Borlace	Senior Advocate	September 2020
Tandanya Allain	Carer Advocate	April 2019
Isabella Furnari	Carer Advocate	May 2021
Jacquie Nevin	Legal Consultant	March 2021
<i>Megan McDowall</i>	<i>Legal Consultant</i>	<i>March 2020 to October 2020</i>
<i>Hailey Connor</i>	<i>Carer Advocate</i>	<i>July 2018 to March 2021</i>
<i>Dion Zisos</i>	<i>Carer Advocate</i>	<i>April 2019 to May 2021</i>
<i>Alicia Ladiwala</i>	<i>Carer Advocate</i>	<i>May 2021 to June 2021</i>

STUDENT PLACEMENTS & INTERNSHIPS

NAME	POSITION	DATE JOINED
Emma	Internship (Adelaide Uni)	March 2021
Alicia	Student Placement	July 2020 to Dec 2020
Isabella	Student Placement	July 2020 to Dec 2020
Amanda	Student Placement	March 2021 to June 2021

We are grateful to all our volunteers and student placement staff for their ongoing commitment to achieving our mission and vision. We benefitted from **over 2,000 volunteer and student placement hours** as at 30/6/2021. This is a phenomenal achievement, an increase of approximately 600 hours from the previous year. We are thankful for the collective skills, knowledge and experience our voluntary workforce provides for our organisation. CF&KC-SA will continue to develop and provide volunteer and student placement opportunities to progress the future of our organisation and as our crucial contribution to developing a skilled child protection workforce for South Australia.

We would like to extend a special thank you to our volunteers: Liz Browne, for her support and facilitation of our Grief and Transition Support Group and our Peer Support volunteers: Susan, Trude, Kimberley, Wendy, Heidi, Jackie, Michelle, Narelle and Kelly.

Moving into the final year of my Bachelors of Social Work, it was nerve wracking for me to think about graduation and stepping foot into the professional world. I felt so privileged to end my degree by doing a placement at Connecting Foster and Kinship Carers SA. I had the opportunity to work alongside professionals that are so passionate, driven and fierce yet so compassionate in their roles and responsibilities; constantly looking at ways to elevate their standards and the quality of service they provide.

The organisational culture of CF&KC-SA has been the highlight for me so far as the team is so uplifting and supportive in turn cultivating a safe and non-judgemental learning space. Since my first day at placement, the team has gone above and beyond in guiding me every step of the way, equipping and empowering me with the skill set, ethical values and knowledge base required to navigate the complexities and predicaments that arise with both respect and diplomacy.

They've helped me realise that being a Social Worker is a huge responsibility that can profoundly make a difference towards positive change.

Alicia Ladiwala, Placement Student



OUR ACTIVITIES

ADVOCATE

During the 2020/21 period CF&KC-SA continued to clearly and confidently promote the voice of Carers, ensuring the Carer community is recognised as a crucial part of the child protection system. Our advocacy support, both individual and systemic, continued to provide Carers with the opportunity to participate in decisions that impact the children and young people in their care, and aims to ensure their rights as Carers are promoted and protected.

Our Carer Advocacy Service moved into its third year of operation as a fully funded service, continuing to operate at two levels; individual and systemic. Advocacy continued with a steady uptick of cases, as Carers across SA progressively became aware of the support provided by our advocate team. During 2020/21 our Carer Advocacy Service recorded approximately **338 occasions of individual advocacy, inclusive of our inform and connect service delivery support.**

- 505 texts sent
- 2,410 emails sent
- 98 in person meetings
- 1,338 phone conversations and website responses

A combined total of more than 1,640 hours of support provided by three part time advocates.

The Carer Advocacy Team wishes to acknowledge the strong partnership approach to supporting Carers with the DCP and agency staff across South Australia, who took the time to review the individual circumstances for Carer families and work towards positive outcomes. Our team operates with pride and respect with all stakeholders, ensuring the pillars of the Statement of Commitment for Foster & Kinship Carers is the foundation for all advocacy cases.

We once again thank all our Members and Carers who contacted CF&KC-SA over the past 12 months and trusted us to help. Your faith in our service and fulsome feedback is gratefully appreciated.

"The Carer Advocate heard my voice, they empathised with the situation and they were always on the same page with me. They understood my goals and what I wanted to achieve" - [Carer feedback on Advocacy support](#)

"They left no stone unturned, they sent email after email and made themselves available all the time. Prior to that I had no one, they validated how I was feeling and understood what I was trying to get. They made me feel safe and it wasn't just a job to them, they wanted to help. I never felt that I was burden." - [Carer feedback on Advocacy support](#)

"The experience with DCP was very daunting, however having our advocate we felt like they were the perfect match and we felt very supported throughout the challenges we faced" - [Carer feedback on Advocacy support](#)

"The advocate did a phenomenal job in supporting us and I wish I knew your organisation existed earlier" - [Carer feedback on Advocacy support](#)

Our **systems advocacy** continued to focus on issues raised by Carers via the individual advocacy cases, our 2020 annual survey and pertinent information shared from calls to our 1800 number. Areas of consistent concern requiring systemic change included:

1. Care Concerns: i.e. inconsistent process, poor execution by frontline staff with Carers, no mechanisms for reviewing determinations and the excessive length of time taken to review allegations
2. End of placement practice and the negative impact on Carers including grief and loss
3. Respite entitlements
4. Education: lack of consultation with Carers, lack of consistency across schools, deficit in trauma informed frameworks within schools, one plans just words on a page
5. The experience of Aboriginal kinship carers and Aboriginal Placement Principle
6. Financial agreements and Carer payments
7. Carers not receiving communication from DCP in a prompt and transparent manner, particularly after decision making that impacts Carer families
8. Unavailability and lack of transparency regarding DCP policy & procedure, references as the basis of decision making

CF&KC-SA addressed the aforementioned areas of systemic change by way of reference groups, information sessions, bespoke support groups, lobbying with DCP directly for information and pursuing involvement in the Care Concerns Reform Project.

In addition to the issues of systemic change raised through our individual advocacy efforts, we released our fourth annual **Foster & Kinship Carer Survey** asking Carers to tell us about the challenges and successes of providing family based care. We received **210 responses from Carer households** across the state. More Foster Carers responded than Kinship Carers with 45% of respondents from a rural and remote location.

Carers stated their **greatest worries** included:

- Care Concerns
- Removal of their child or young person
- Workers making decisions without Carer consultation; and
- Not having enough support to meet the needs of the child.

Carers also reflected their **greatest challenges** regarding their caring journey was:

- Lack of respite
- Challenging behaviours of their young people
- Inadequate support from the child protection system; and
- Poor communication and feeling disrespected by DCP.

With regard to **training and information** preferences, Carers requested (in order of need):

1. Behaviour management training (including managing challenging behaviours)
2. Helping their child reach their full potential

3. Dealing with (and responding to) the impact of trauma experienced by their young person; and
4. Carer self-care.

We are pleased to report we have actively pursued the areas of greatest worry and challenges through a variety of systemic advocacy through tailored reference groups to provide feedback to DCP and a development of the Statement of Commitment for South Australian Foster & Kinship Carers.

"I'm just so thankful and grateful that you guys exist, the advocate that supported me was fantastic" - Carer feedback on Advocacy support

Within the Connecting Foster and Kinship Advocacy Team it is considered a privilege to work alongside such resilient, generous and open hearted Carers. The team is very aware of the adversity faced by Foster and Kinship Carers and share a passion in working to ensure that Carers voices heard and their rights upheld.

This year has seen a significant increase in engagement with the Advocacy Service from the Carer Community, demonstrating the necessity of the service and the ongoing issues that carers face in providing care for vulnerable children and young people.

On an individual level, the advocacy team are working alongside carers to have their voices heard and ensure that they are appropriately involved in relevant decision making processes that impact the children and young people in their care. The consistent themes that arise through the individual advocacy helps to guide our Systemic Advocacy. Some of these themes include: Ensuring that the Child and Young Person Safety Act is followed i.e. Adequate and meaningful carer consultation in decision making process; Process and Practice around Care Concerns, Information Sharing, ensuring that the Foster and Kinship Care Statement of Commitment is upheld by all stakeholders.

Whilst change can be slow and incremental, the Advocacy Team are committed to their work with the Carer Community and continue to push for results for all carers and the children and young people in their care.

Sharee Borlace, Senior Advocate



In addition to our individual and systemic advocacy activities, we were involved in many other areas of work across the child protection sector attending over **250 sector meetings**, including regular meetings with The Honourable Minister Rachel Sanderson, Minister for Child Protection and Department for Child Protection executive team members including DCP Chief Executive Cathy Taylor and other key stakeholders where we raise common issues and seek improvements to policy, process and legislation.

SUPPORT

Our support services spanned across South Australia, reaching Carers via telephone calls, emails, website enquiries and Facebook contact. The team demonstrated their skill and professionalism supporting Carers both virtually and face to face.

During the 2020-21 year, CF&KC-SA:

- recorded **1,300 phone calls** (inclusive of both 1800 & Carer Advocacy calls)
- replied to **82 general email, event and website enquiries**
- engaged with a growing Facebook community – **1,497 Likes** and **1,596 Followers** as at 30 June 2021

Topics for CF&KC-SA support services emerge via phone calls received through our 1800 number, our individual advocacy cases in addition to the Carer voice captured in our annual survey. Two crucial support services that emerged through these pathways focussed specifically on the needs of Kinship Carers and the Grief and Loss Carers experience when placements end. continued to deliver the extremely successful Greif and Transition Group, supporting Carers through end of placement, exploring grief and loss through a restorative practice lens.

The Grief and Transition Support group has been running since November 2019. It is an open group for Foster and Kinship carers, facilitated by CF&KC-SA volunteers and staff, meeting on a monthly basis.

Due to the often temporary nature of Foster and Kinship care, Carers experience of grief and loss is a common experience but is not well recognised and understood within the wider community. This reduces carers abilities to openly grieve and express the depths of their emotions in a space where they feel safe, supported and understood.

The key aim of the group is to provide a safe place for Carers to express their emotions where they feel their grief and loss is understood and validated, whilst integrating strategies and resources to support carers cope with their experiences.

In the past year we have seen a handful of regular attendees say thank you and goodbye to the group as they felt that they were now in a place where they no longer required the ongoing support of the group. This is something that has been celebrated by all involved, as it demonstrates that the service is providing meaningful outcomes for the carer community.

The positive results of the group have also been validated through an Evaluation of the group by Professor Damien Riggs (Flinders University): *"There's no disenfranchisement when you're sitting in that room": Evaluating a South Australian grief and loss support group for foster and kinship carers.* The article highlights that the group is having the intended outcome, of carers feeling heard and validated with the support of others with similar experiences.

The experiences and stories shared by this support group continues to guide our systemic lobbying regarding the treatment, support and retention of Foster & Kinship Carers.

Tandanya Allain, Carer Advocate



"It is reassuring to be able to talk about our unique loss in a safe place. Only a carer can know what disenfranchised grief means and why we endure the losses we do. I truly hope that one day we can collectively inform DCP that attachments such as ours are valuable and important to the child and should always be maintained during transition to another home no matter" - [Carer/Volunteer Attendee](#)

"There is such a whole in services provided to help carers deal with disenfranchised grief. This group is a safe and caring environment, surrounded by people who "get it", allowing an opportunity to work through emotional luggage of heartache and bereavement. The Grief and Transition Group provides a space to regroup, grow and maintain resilience to move forward" - [Carer/Volunteer Attendee](#)

CF&KC-SA would like to extend a tremendous thank you to our previous Senior Advocate, Liz Browne, for co-facilitating the Grief & Transition Group donating her time in a voluntary capacity. Thank you Liz, we are extremely grateful.

OUR MEMBERS

Members play an important part in shaping the work of CF&KC-SA and improving the system for Carer families across South Australia. The support of our Members ensures we advocate on the most relevant issues facing our Carers, and we can speak with confidence to the issues that need improvement, and the services that need to be developed.

We are pleased to report an increase in our membership over the past year. As of 30 June 2021, CF&KC-SA recorded **987 active Members**. As a peak body, it is vital we understand the needs of our Foster & Kinship Carer Members so we may best represent their needs in CF&KC-SA's advocacy efforts and service development.

INFORM

CF&KC-SA continued to provide high quality, relevant information to the South Australian Carer community, ensuring it was delivered in a variety of mediums to maximise accessibility.

The information and education projects CF&KC-SA presented during 2020/21 included:

- Circulating **weekly newsletter emails** updating members on events, information and support
- Hosting eight **morning tea sessions**:
 1. Meet the Commissioner for Children & Young People *presented by Commissioner Helen Connolly*
 2. Unplugged Information session *presented by Uniting Communities Wesley Bowden*
 3. Introduction to the Carer Payments Process (via virtual delivery) *presented by DCP*
 4. Centrelink Carer Entitlements *presented by Centrelink*
 5. Healthy Homes: rules & routines *presented by Aboriginal Family Support Services*
 6. Cyber Safety workshop *presented by Department of Human Services*
 7. NDIS presentation *presented by MyAbility*
 8. Effortless self-care for Carers (via virtual delivery) *presented by Michael Place*
- Published ten **Carer Guides**:
 1. The Youth Court
 2. Wills & Estate Planning
 3. How to draft a SACAT application
 4. Long Term Guardianship Specified Person Application process
 5. The Carer Non Approval Process
 6. What is a Care Team meeting
 7. Understanding the Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017
 8. Reviewable Decisions
 9. External Review at SACT
 10. What is a Complex Case Review Meeting

Each Carer Guides is developed using input from Carers accessing our Advocacy Service and the CF&KC-SA support line for assistance. All Carer Guides are available on our website for all members of the child protection sector to access.

“As a carer advocate, seeing the Foster and Kinship Carers I work with gain further knowledge through the groups/ sessions we hold is amazing. It empowers them to take this knowledge and apply it to their everyday lives and routines with the children and young people they care for. Knowing both the Carers and the children and young people are benefiting from these groups/sessions makes me excited to plan more for 2022”.

Isabella Furnari, Carer Advocate



CONNECT

CF&KC-SA offered several opportunities for Carers to connect through events and activities prior to the pandemic, with a focus on providing information about current issues and offering a range of opportunities to share the achievements and challenges involved in parenting within a family based care setting.

Opportunities to connect over the past year included the following events:

- **Family Fun Event** at AFL MAX, attended by **89 Carers & 177 children & young people** enjoyed the opportunity to connect with other Carers and involve all members of their family. Children and young people (and some adults) enjoyed an assortment of activities available in the nation's first immersive footy skills and entertainment centre. Along with CF&KC-SA staff, the Guardian for Children & Young People team joined us (along with their mascot Oog!) and Amy from Create Foundation provided badge making fun for all
- Two **reference groups** regarding areas of systemic change for our Carers including; Carer payments and accessing and maintaining education for children & young people in family based care
- Our monthly Grief & Transition **support group**
- Adelaide Fringe Family Fun Event (invitation only special event) – 24 Carers & 48 children & young people in care (72 tickets)
- Adelaide Festival DreamBig event – 9 Carer families (40 tickets)



CF&KC-SA Family Fun Event at AFL Max April 2021 (L-R: Fiona Endacott, Amanda Quince, The Hon. Minister Sanderson, Dion Zisos, Sam & team member from AFL Max, Sharee Borlace, Emma Feagan, Tandanya Allain, Natalie Baron)



Connecting with Carer families at the CREATE Family Fun Day in March 2021 (L-R: Fabian McPhee, CREATE Community Facilitator; Fiona Endacott, CF&KC-SA CEO; Amy Duke, CREATE State Coordinator)

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of Heather Croall and the Fringe Community Donors, a selection of our Carer community experienced a once in a lifetime event, risk free at the Speigeltent in Hindmarsh Square. The community event was tailored for our Carer families and included a wonderful acrobatic mermaid show and donuts, pastries and cool drinks for all to enjoy.

'We're a family of 8 people and it's usually very expensive for us to plan such outings but it was achievable as we received these tickets. We are very appreciative of this!' - [Carer feedback, Fringe Festival](#)

'The whole event was the highlight for us. It was nice to move around without worrying about anything.' - [Carer feedback, Fringe Festival](#)

'It was such a great family day on Saturday. We loved the show and the food, performances and weather were all just perfect. Just what we needed!' - [Carer feedback, Fringe Festival](#)

'It was a great show, perfect for our age group and as adults we really enjoyed it too! It was an amazing evening seeing other families with their children as well.' - [Carer feedback, Fringe Festival](#)

'All my kids thoroughly enjoyed everything, the energy was great and it was an interactive event, which made it even more fun-filled!' - [Carer feedback, Fringe Festival](#)

'It was lovely meeting other Kinship Carers that were in similar situations as myself. It was a joyful evening for all of us.' - [Carer feedback, Fringe Festival](#)

'We would just like to express our gratitude as a family. We really appreciate that they were able to put that on for our family.' - [Carer feedback, Fringe Festival](#)

CARER EDUCATION

Throughout 2020/21 we continued our collaborative partnership with the Bradford Institute for Advanced Education, supporting our Carer members to participate in further education. At the end of September 2021 (just outside this reporting period) we reached a milestone of **77 Carers graduate with a Diploma of Community Services**, since the pilot began in 2019.

Of these graduates 35% have pursued further study since completing their Diploma in areas such as:

- Bachelor of Human Service
- Bachelor of Social Work
- Cert IV in Youth Work
- Certificate IV in Child Care

We are excited to share that 33% of our graduates have since gained employment since completing their Diploma qualification across a variety of roles within the human services sector including:

- National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)
- Headspace
- Aboriginal Family Support Service
- Department for Education
- The Salvation Army
- HenderCare
- Service to Youth Council
- Lutheran Care
- Anglicare
- Flinders University



(above) Diploma of Community Services cohort 3 graduates: March 2021

As the peak body for Carers, we are extremely proud to have facilitated this initiative for our Carer membership – the first of its kind in SA and one which recognises the unique skills and experiences that Carers bring. The course has been life changing for some Carers some of whom never believed they would complete a post school qualification. It has led some Carers to paid employment, some beginning their own businesses, others to further study - and has (in many cases) inspired the children and young people in their care.

CF&KC-SA wishes to thank the Bradford Institute for continuing to facilitate this bespoke opportunity for our Carers, and pursuing subsidies for our students offered through the Skilling SA Initiative offered by The South Australian Department for Innovation and Skills.



(left) Diploma of Community Services cohort 2 graduates: Oct 2020

We look forward to continuing to deliver this bespoke learning opportunity to our Carer membership well into the future.

*"It gave me the language and confidence to speak to the organisations that are the experts without feeling intimidated. The Diploma has given me the confidence to advocate for the children in my care and know what entitlements they can have. Although it is still a constant fight for every single step of the way, I wouldn't have known how to start without this diploma" – **Carer student feedback***

(right) Diploma of Community Services graduation guests
Oct 2020

(L-R: David Bradford, CEO Bradford Institute, The Hon. Rachel Sanderson Minister for Child Protection, Fiona Endacott CF&KC-SA CEO, Sue Barr, Executive Director Out of Home Care DCP)



2021 NATIONAL FOSTER & KINSHIP CARE CONFERENCE

On the 11th and 12th of June 2021, we were thrilled to (finally) deliver the National Foster & Kinship Care Conference to the Australian community. The conference was postponed from 2020 due to the pandemic and rescheduled to June 2021 as a fully virtual event, ensuring the Carer community could access quality content irrespective of isolation, lockdowns and locations. The national conference has a rich, long history as a face to face event, hosted by our sister peak bodies on a regular rotation. We were proud to have pivoted seamlessly to pilot the event in a new format, a fully virtual event, using a state of the art conference platform.

We were delighted to welcome over 400 delegates to the conference from across Australia, with the benefit of the platform to allow individuals to access the speakers presentations for a full 12 months after the event, with South Australia's Child Protection Minister, The Honorable Rachel Sanderson, provided our opening address.

The conference theme was Connect, Share & Learn; which we consciously integrated into every element of our event. Our speakers presented across four streams over two days, with the program including six plenary sessions and 20 In Conversation workshop sessions. The conference platform had a foolproof ongoing chat stream for delegates to ask questions and share information in addition to a break out room for Carers to connect with each other, across the country. We were thrilled to intersperse short activities between presentation, providing delegates the opportunity to recharge with sessions including tea making, mindfulness colouring and laughter yoga in addition to a live comedy show on the Friday night from the wonderful Chris Ryan. Delegates enjoyed the snacks during the show, which were included in the conference packs our CF&KC-SA team lovingly packed and posted prior to the event.

Our major speakers included:

- neuroscience educator Nathan Wallis, whose subject was Change Your Brain, Change Your Life ;
- South Australian Primary Principals Association President Angela Falkenberg, on Starting Strong, Staying Strong ;
- Jeremy 'Yongurra' Donovan, Indigenous storyteller from the far northern Qld Kuku-Yalanji tribe, on overcoming adversity and healing ancestral wounds for Aboriginal children and young people;
- Associate Professor Damien Riggs, on Supporting Transgender Young People in Care; and
- Dr Stacy Blythe, nurse, research fellow and lecturer, on Supporting Children and Young People with a History of Pre-natal Substance Exposure.

We were delighted with the range and quality of the speakers we were fortunate to have as part of this important event, all working collaboratively to assist and enhance the role of foster & kinship carers in the child protection sector nationally.



**National Foster
& Kinship Care
Conference**

CONNECT • SHARE • LEARN

11-12 JUNE 2021 • ADELAIDE

OUR LEGAL ADVOCACY

In December 2020 CF&KC-SA applied for, and successfully secured, a second grant from the Law Foundation of South Australia to progress the projects implemented from our first grant. We were fortunate to appoint Jacquie Nevin as our Legal Consultant in March 2021.

Within her role, Jacquie has confidently led a number of crucial projects to advance the rights for Foster & Kinship Carers, in addition to ensuring our advocacy team are comprehensively aware of the legislative rights afforded to the Carer community.

We have successfully collaborated with four South Australian Community Legal Services, developing Memorandum of Understandings, outlining a partnership approach to supporting Foster & Kinship Carers. The MOUs are with:

1. Southern Community Justice Service
2. Women's Legal Service South Australia
3. Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement
4. Northern Community Legal Service

During 2021, CF&KC-SA developed a Scope of Collaboration with The Adelaide University Legal Advice Clinic to support our Carer membership access legal advice and drafting by final year law students, who are supervised by practicing solicitors. The law students provide advice and draft internal review applications for (and with) Carers as these review applications are extremely time consuming for our Carer Advocates to draft.

This new collaboration will ensure our Advocacy team remain focused on supporting Carers whilst utilising the legal resources and skills of the law students through the clinic.

In addition to our MOUs and collaboration with the Adelaide University Legal Advice Clinic, CF&KC-SA now has a modest, standalone pro bono pool of solicitors and barristers for Carers to access as part of their reviewable rights process. This is a work in progress, one we hope to expand upon in 2022.

As the CF&KC-SA Legal Consultant I have worked closely alongside the Advocates ensuring Carers are correctly informed of their legal rights and legislated avenues available to them.

Working closely with the Advocates has given me first-hand knowledge of the cases and ensured the pertinent legal issue in a matter is extracted in a timely manner. This may be as simple as reminding the Department of their legislative requirements through an email or drafting complaints to the Department and Ombudsman, or ensuring care concerns are dealt with expeditiously without the matter escalating or proceedings to an internal review.

For matters that have proceeded to internal review my role has been integral in supporting the pro bono lawyers that we have engaged including drafting timeline of events, collating briefs, attending Conciliation/Mediation at SACAT, attending pro bono lawyer/barrister meetings. By providing this level of support at SACAT matters ensures the Carer Advocates are able to continue supporting carers in other matters.

In this role I have had first-hand experience of the systemic issues effecting Carers legal rights. Of particular note is the delay in internal reviews and the impact this has on Carers and the likelihood of a positive outcome.

My findings inform the organisation's systemic advocacy efforts and used as a basis to lobby for lasting legislative change.

I look forward to building upon our work to date and progressing the rights of Foster & Kinship Carers in 2022.

Jacquie Nevin – CF&KC-SA Legal Consultant



We thank the Law Foundation of South Australia Incorporated for their generous grants towards our Legal Consultant role at CF&KC-SA.

**The
LAW FOUNDATION
of SA Incorporated**



The Law Foundation of SA Inc
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Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.

ABN 20 480 116 610

Annual Report - 30 June 2021

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.

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Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue			
DCP contracted grant income		431,991	477,500
Sponsorship income		30,409	97,273
		<u>462,400</u>	<u>574,773</u>
Other income			
Total revenue	4	<u>100,964</u>	<u>30,640</u>
		<u>563,364</u>	<u>605,413</u>
Expenses			
Administration expense	5	(33,858)	(37,796)
Computer expense		(11,155)	(6,430)
Meeting and conference expense		(78,333)	(23,116)
Employee benefits expense		(397,230)	(401,983)
Rent expense		(32,216)	(37,500)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		-	(558)
Advertising and promotion expense		(5,769)	(2,483)
Affiliation and subscription fees		(4,545)	(1,816)
Events expense		(3,210)	(20,013)
Client support expenses		(2,446)	(5,995)
Accounting and audit expense		(1,827)	(1,300)
Motor vehicle expense		(476)	(3,499)
Volunteer expense		(192)	(3,484)
Foster carer expense		(27)	(4,017)
Travel and accommodation expense		-	(4,057)
Other expenses		(1,653)	(2,903)
Total expenses		<u>(572,937)</u>	<u>(556,950)</u>
(deficit)/surplus for the year		(9,573)	48,463
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>(9,573)</u>	<u>48,463</u>

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Statement of financial position
As at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021	2020
		\$	\$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	190,547	189,941
Trade and other receivables	7	430	15,430
Prepayments		2,680	2,680
Total current assets		<u>193,657</u>	<u>208,051</u>
Total assets		<u>193,657</u>	<u>208,051</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	28,578	39,851
Employee benefits	9	33,481	27,029
Total current liabilities		<u>62,059</u>	<u>66,880</u>
Total liabilities		<u>62,059</u>	<u>66,880</u>
Net assets		<u>131,598</u>	<u>141,171</u>
Equity			
Retained surpluses		<u>131,598</u>	<u>141,171</u>
Total equity		<u>131,598</u>	<u>141,171</u>

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Statement of changes in equity
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	92,708	92,708
Surplus for the year	48,463	48,463
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>48,463</u>	<u>48,463</u>
Balance at 30 June 2020	<u>141,171</u>	<u>141,171</u>
	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2020	141,171	141,171
Deficit for the year	(9,573)	(9,573)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>(9,573)</u>	<u>(9,573)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2021	<u>131,598</u>	<u>131,598</u>

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from grants, subsidies and donations		628,019	660,133
Payments to suppliers and employees		(627,712)	(592,822)
Interest received		299	513
Net cash from operating activities		606	67,824
Net cash from investing activities		-	-
Net cash from financing activities		-	-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		606	67,824
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		189,941	122,117
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	6	190,547	189,941

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2021

Note 1. General information

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc. is a not-for-profit incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

A description of the nature of the incorporated association's operations and its principal activities are included in the members' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 16 November 2021.

Note 2. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out either in the respective notes or below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Basis of preparation

In the members' opinion, the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and associated regulations. The members have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the Board of Management of Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statement of Cash Flows', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for profit oriented entities.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for, where applicable, the revaluation of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income, investment properties, certain classes of property, plant and equipment and derivative financial instruments.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the incorporated association's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 3.

Revenue recognition

The incorporated association recognises revenue as follows:

Grant income

Income arising from the contribution of an asset (including cash) is recognised when the following conditions have been satisfied:

- (a) the Association obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution;
- (b) it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Association; and
- (c) the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably at the fair value of the consideration received.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2021

Note 2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Other income

Other income is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

Income tax

As the incorporated association is a charitable institution in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the tax authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority.

Note 3. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. There are no critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions that are likely to affect the current or future financial years.

Note 4. Other income

	2021 \$	2020 \$
ATO cashflow boost	63,426	-
Grants & donations	37,136	30,127
Interest income	299	513
Other income	103	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Other income	<u>100,964</u>	<u>30,640</u>

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2021

Note 5. Administration expense

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cleaning	2,800	3,220
Cloud admin office expense	4,950	5,430
Insurance	6,124	4,708
Printing, stationary and postage	1,350	3,950
Staff amenities	1,639	2,658
Telephone and internet	9,625	9,880
Utilities	7,370	7,950
	<u>33,858</u>	<u>37,796</u>

Note 6. Cash and cash equivalents

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<i>Current assets</i>		
Cash at bank and on hand	<u>190,547</u>	<u>189,941</u>

Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Note 7. Trade and other receivables

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<i>Current assets</i>		
Trade receivables	<u>430</u>	<u>15,430</u>

Accounting policy for trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Note 8. Trade and other payables

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Trade payables	8,682	2,617
Superannuation payable	2,897	1,244
BAS payable	<u>16,999</u>	<u>35,990</u>
	<u>28,578</u>	<u>39,851</u>

Accounting policy for trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the incorporated association prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2021

Note 9. Employee benefits

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Annual leave	<u>33,481</u>	<u>27,029</u>

Accounting policy for employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Note 10. Events after the reporting period

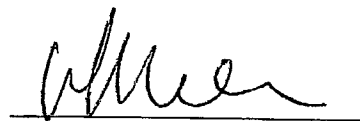
No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2021 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the incorporated association's operations, the results of those operations, or the incorporated association's state of affairs in future financial years.

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers - SA Inc.
Members' declaration
30 June 2021

In the members' opinion:

- the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 2 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and associated regulations;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 2 to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the members



Chairperson

16 November 2021



Member

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers – SA Inc.

Independent auditor's report

To the members of Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers – SA Inc.

We have audited the financial report of Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers – SA Inc. (CF&KC-SA), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, the notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the CF&KC-SA members' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of CF&KC-SA has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of CF&KC-SA's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of CF&KC-SA in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the CF&KC-SA Board of Management's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibility of the CF&KC-SA Board of Management (Board) for the Financial Report

The CF&KC-SA Board is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 2 to the financial statements is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The CF&KC-SA Board's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board determines as necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the CF&KC-SA Board is responsible for assessing CF&KC-SA's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

The CF&KC-SA Board is responsible for overseeing the CF&KC-SA's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the CF&KC-SA Board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the CF&KC-SA Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the CF&KC-SA Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Super Funds Accounting Pty Ltd



Kimani Nganga BCom, CPA, DFP, SSAud
Director

Dated 17th December 2021

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CF&KC-SA would like to acknowledge our funding body and thank the **Department for Child Protection** for contributing funds towards the Carer Advocacy Service.

THANK YOU

- **The Honorable Rachel Sanderson, Minister for Child Protection** for their ongoing support of the peak representative body for Foster & Kinship Carers across South Australia;
- **Peter Monk from Inveress Web Development** for the ongoing web development and support for CF&KC-SA;
- **The Law Foundation of South Australia** for their generous grant to ensure Carers can access and understand their legal rights;
- **The National Foster & Kinship Care Collective**, our Carer peak partner's interstate for their collaboration and support, mentoring and guidance;
- **Bradford Institute of Advance Education** for developing and providing an incredible qualification opportunity for our Carers;
- **Mali Isabel** for creating a bespoke piece of reconciliation artwork depicting Foster & Kinship Carer families;
- **Uncle Michael O'Brien** for their incredibly meaningful cultural acknowledgements for our Carer events;
- **Hood Sweeney** for providing the necessary IT support to ensure our Carer Advocacy Service is mobile, agile and secure;
- **The Adelaide Fringe Festival and their Community Donor Fund** for the generous donation of tickets for our Carer families to attend various events across the state during the Fringe;
- **GOGO Events and The Meeting People** for facilitating the delivery of the very first virtual National Foster & Kinship Care Conference- an absolute success;
- **Razzamatazz circus and the Balnaves Foundation** for the generous donation of tickets;
- **Rachael Zaltron, Backpacks 4 SA kids** for her generous support to our Carer families;
- **Barristers at Selby Street Chambers** for their pro bono legal support;
- **The Honorable David Pisoni, Minister for Innovation & Skills** for their generous Skilling SA subsidy, facilitating our Carer students to undertake a qualification offered by CF&KC-SA & Bradford Institute;
- **Women's Legal Service of SA, Southern Community Justice Service and Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement** for working with our organisation to ensure Carer rights are upheld within the South Australian Civil Administrative Tribunal;

- **Enervon** for their generous donation of AFL box tickets to the Anzac Day game;
- **Wok in a Box and the Pancake Kitchen** for their generous donation of gift cards for our 2020 annual survey prize winners.

And, THANK YOU to the multitude of individuals and organisations who have taken the time to meet with CF&KC-SA during the past financial year and shown their support for the organisation in various ways: by offering advice, lending support, sharing views about the past and the future. Your generosity has further enhanced our growth and development in so many ways and is sincerely appreciated.



(right) Fringe community event for Carers: March 2021 (L-R: Lauren Finch, Fringe Executive Assistant & Fiona Endacott



(above) Fringe community event for Carers: March 2021 "A Mermaids Tale"



(above) CF&KC-SA team back of house at the 2021 National Foster & Kinship Care Conference (L-R: Amanda Quince, Alisha Ladiwala, Jacque Nevin, Natalie Baron)



(right) Parenting SA Cyber Safety Carer Information Session