

TALK
TO US
TODAY



Make a difference
in a Child's life

07 4779 3332
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CARER CONNECT



PROGRAM MANAGER P2—3
HEALTH AND WELLBEING P4
CULTURAL CONNECT P5
ALTHEA GRANT P7
SFC NEWS P8-15
STAFF LIST P16
SFC PLANNING DAY P17
CARER CONNECT APP P18
RESPITE CHANGES P19-20
CARER TRIBUTE P21
KIDS CORNER P22
PARTNERSHIPS & SUP-
PORTERS P23



Hello and thank you for choosing to read this Carer Connect issue. With Christmas just around the corner I'm sure you and your family are busy with end of school assemblies, gift purchasing and other festive events.

It is with great sadness that I have announced my resignation effective early 2019, so this may well be my last Carer Connect Newsletter article. My family and I will be moving down to Tweed Heads NSW in February/March 2019, and even though it was a difficult decision it is the right time for my family. I have enjoyed my time spent working for Althea Projects and have met so many amazing people throughout my ten years. The Program Managers position is currently being advertised and we hope to have someone in the position early next year. I'm sure you will be as friendly and supportive of the new Program Manager as you have been towards me. I've been encouraged by the demonstrated commitment and motivation to making a positive difference in children and young people's lives and have felt privileged to be part of the support to help you throughout this endeavor. I would like to encourage you to preserve and continue in the amazing work you are doing.

It is also with deep regret and sadness I acknowledge the passing of Norm Bartholomew on the 7th November 2018. Norm and Judy have been foster caring together for over 12 years and have provided a home away from home for many children and young people during those years. Norm will be missed by everyone

at Shared Family Care and we offer our deepest condolences to Judy and the

family at this sad time. Norm will live on in our hearts and memories.

On the 22nd November the Shared Family Care team had our annual planning day. You can see photo's from the event included in this newsletter. Planning Days always provide the team an opportunity to reflect on the past 12 months and to discuss improvements and plan for the next 12 months. We focused on the development of our team culture and also key areas of support to develop our 2019 Operational Plan. It was a good opportunity to include the new staff who have joined our team of recent.

Two new faces/voices you will see/hear are Bingya Yu-an and Noni Dicton both Family Case Workers. Bingya will be supporting and case managing a group of carers and Noni will be looking after intake and referrals. Mikayla Johnstone has also stayed on with us for another 3 months as a Family Case Worker and will be supporting carers out in the Burdekin region. Mikayla was previously a JCU Student undertaking her Fourth Year Social Work placement. All three women bring some amazing strengths to the team and have already contributed positively to the work.

In the New Year Althea Projects will be moving to a new Client Management System after 12 months of intensive work. The primary objective for the new Client Management System is to streamline our processes, go paperless and to focus on being able to track and measure improved outcomes for clients.





Chris Sweet who is a Family Case Worker currently sitting in the Project Worker role and I will be responsible for getting this implemented next year. With any change comes potential hiccups and as much as we are pre-planning to eliminate as many disruptions as possible I ask for your patience in advance for any unforeseen interruptions.

I'm also excited to announce that Lena Watego who was previously our Identified Family Case Worker has moved into a new position entitled Cultural Support Advisor. Lena will be working with the Family Case Worker and yourselves to develop comprehensive Cultural Support Plans which will assist and support us meet the cultural needs of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in your care.

For those of you who attended the Townsville Christmas Party which occurred on the weekend I hope you and the children had a fun time. For those who live in the Burdekin or Charters Towers please note your Christmas Parties are scheduled for the 18th December (Burdekin - Bowling) and the 19th December (Charters Towers – Movies). I encourage you to attend if at all possible and provide feedback about the events. Your feedback helps us get better next time.

Christmas is a time to come together as friends and family and is a time full of wonder and magic. I'm sure each of your families have your own fun traditions and way of celebrating this time of year. Re-

member that this won't necessarily be the case for all children and young people in your care. Christmas may remind children of traumatic experiences and can be a reminder of their separation from their biological parents and family. Encourage children and young people to talk to you and acknowledge how they are feeling. Maybe ask them about what they used to do as a family tradition and try to include into your own festivities. Find out about a favorite Christmas treat and add it to the shopping list. Wherever possible make them feel a part of your own families Christmas traditions for example their own Christmas stocking. Whatever you do or wherever you go I would like to wish you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Remember our office will be closing early on Christmas Eve 24th December and will remain closed until 9am on the 3rd January. During that time you can still access 24 hours support either by phoning the office on 4779 3332 and listen to the options or alternatively you can phone directly on 0418 150 229. The staff won't be responding to emails during this time so you will need to phone the above numbers if you require assistance.

I would like to wish you all the best for 2019 and your continual journey as Foster and Kinship Carers.

'Happiness doesn't result from what we get, but what we give – Ben Carson'.

Thanks again

Teresa Smith
Program Manager





Health and Wellbeing



5 Tips To Keep You Happy & Healthy

1



Do something impulsive.

Do something impulsive that you haven't planned every day. It's better to have no plan so we can seize the opportunities that may arise.

2



Have rituals.

"We are less who we are than what we do." Do 3 things that you love every day. As a result, feeling the gratitude will help you better sleep. Better sleep helps to be in a better mood. A better mood helps to make better decisions.

3



Exercise at least 10 minutes a day.

Exercising has a huge influence on your brain, on your mood, on your ability to reflect and on your health. Even 10 minutes a day will kick-start you into action.

4



Take breaks.

Prevent burnouts by stopping what you are doing and do something else. Create a different atmosphere, add some novelties in your daily routine.

5



Learn something new.

Learning helps to create new connections in your brain and to come up with new ideas and new opportunities.

Source: JustPrivateMedical.co.uk



Cultural Connect



VOICE. TREATY. TRUTH.

We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future. The Indigenous voice of this country is over 65,000 plus years old. They are the first words spoken on this continent. Languages that passed down lore, culture and knowledge for over millennia. They are precious to our nation. It's that Indigenous voice that include know-how, practices, skills and innovations - found in a wide variety of contexts, such as agricultural, scientific, technical, ecological and medicinal fields, as well as biodiversity-related

knowledge. They are words connecting us to country, an understanding of country and of a people who are the oldest continuing culture on the planet. And with 2019 being celebrated as the UN's International Year of Indigenous Language, it's time for our knowledge to be heard through our voice.

For generations, we have sought recognition of our unique place in Australian history and society today. We need to be the architects of our lives and futures. For generations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have looked for significant and lasting change. Voice. Treaty. Truth. were three key elements to the reforms set out in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. These reforms represent the unified position of First Nations Australians. However, the Uluru State-

ment built on generations of consultation and discussions among Indigenous people on a range of issues and grievances. Consultations about the further reforms necessary to secure and underpin our rights and to ensure they can be exercised and enjoyed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It specifically sequenced a set of reforms: first, a First Nations Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Constitution and second, a Makarrata Commission to supervise treaty processes and truth-telling. (Makarrata is a word from the language of the Yolngu people in Arnhem Land. The Yolngu concept of Makarrata captures the idea of two parties coming together after a struggle, healing the divisions of the past. It is about acknowledging that something has been done wrong, and it seeks to make things right.) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people want their voice to be heard. First Nations were excluded from the Constitutional convention debates of the 1800's when the Australian Constitution came into force. Indigenous people were excluded from the bargaining table. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have always wanted an enhanced role in decision-making in Australia's democracy. In the European settlement of Australia, there were no treaties, no formal settlements, no compacts.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people therefore did not cede sovereignty to our land. It was taken away from us. That will remain a continuing source of dispute. Our sovereignty has never been ceded – not in 1788, not in 1967, not with the Native Title Act, not with the Uluru Statement from the Heart. It coexists with the sovereignty of the Crown and should never be extinguished. Australia is one of the few liberal democracies around the world which still does not have a treaty or treaties or some other kind of formal acknowledgement or arrangement with its Indigenous minorities. A substantive treaty has always been the primary aspiration of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander movement. Critically, treaties are inseparable from Truth. Lasting and effective agreement cannot be achieved unless we have a shared, truthful understanding of the nature of the dispute, of the history, of how we got to where we stand. The true story of colonization must be told, must be heard, must be acknowledged. But hearing this history is necessary before we can come to some true reconciliation, some genuine healing for both sides. And of course, this is not just the history of our First Peoples – it is the history of all of us, of all of Australia, and we need to own it.

Then we can move forward together.



**VOICE
TREATY
TRUTH** 07 - 14
JULY 2019

Lets work together for a shared future.



Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation Grant



Althea Projects is committed to being a part of closing the gap for both equality and equity of opportunity. Althea Projects welcomes funding applications for those who are experiencing barriers to their advancement or inclusion to participate in events/activities due to a lack of money.

Some examples of what might be applied for with these grant applications are;

- Text books for University
- Laptop required for educational reasons
- Sporting costs
- Course/training fees
- Uniforms or equipment required for traineeships
- School activities
- This list is not exhaustive but provides examples of the grants that could be applied for.
- These grant applications are for one off costs rather than ongoing costs.

Grant size

Althea Projects allocates \$10,000 per year to grants. Althea Projects aims to provide as many grants as possible per year within this allowance. Given this, applications of up to \$1500 will be preferred. If the funding amount you require is larger than this, you can still apply and Althea Projects may approve the total or may approve a

portion of what is being requested in which to provide you with some assistance towards your goals.

Eligibility to Apply

- Applicants who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander can apply
- There are no age limits
- Applicants must live in the Townsville and surrounding regions including, Home Hill, Ayr, Charter Towers, Hughenden, Ingham and Palm Island.
- Applicants can be individuals or groups
- Applications must be based upon a funding request that would assist you/your team towards reaching your goals.

Application Exclusions

Applications that will not be considered are;

- Updated mobile phone
- Household items
- Payment of everyday living expenses
- Food or rental costs

For a copy of the Grant Application, please call Shared Family Care on 4779 3332, or email

admin@altheaprojects.org.au





SFC Information

Billabong Sanctuary

With school holidays just around the corner Shared Family Care would like to give our Carers and Children the opportunity to enjoy a beautiful day out to Billabong Sanctuary.

To book please contact Katisha or your Family Case Worker.



Interpretive Shows, Feeding and Handling

9:15 AM - KOALAS + KANGAROOS FEEDING



Great photo opportunities as our Rangers feed fresh gum leaves to the koalas, and our friendly free-ranging kangaroos enjoy their morning meal.

10:00 AM - CASSOWARY FEEDING

The magnificent cassowary is the 3rd largest bird in the world, and is a keystone species in maintaining the health of tropical rainforests. There are fewer than 1000 left in the wild. Learn what we can all do to help them, and hand feed some fruit to Yarrabah and Hope.

10:30 AM - TURTLE + BARRAMUNDI FEEDING



Have some fun feeding our Krefft's turtles, and learn a bit about the history of our very own billabong. Watch the barra churn up the water as Rangers toss some pellets to these popular local freshwater fish [during the cooler months only]

10:45 AM - WOMBAT EXPERIENCE**

Hold-A-Wombat-Townsville

Tickle a Wombat's Toes!

The wombat is the largest burrowing mammal in the world! Learn all about these awesome little diggers. Then come up and give Wanda a pat, or purchase a souvenir photo holding Reuben on your lap!

11.15 AM - KOALA EXPERIENCE**



Hold-A-Koala-Townsville

Why do koalas sleep for most of the day? What is their closest Australian relative? Learn the surprising answers to these questions, then get up close and pat a koala in Koala Crescent, or purchase a souvenir photo as you cuddle one of these endearing marsupials. Billabong Sanctuary is one of the few places in the world where you can hold a koala!

12.00 NOON - REPTILE EXPERIENCE**

Hold-A-Snake

From the safety of our reptile pit, our expert rangers will showcase one of our venomous snakes, as well as our local pythons. You will then have the chance to get up close with some of our lizards, pythons, and even a baby croc! Handling is free, but you can also purchase a souvenir photo holding a native reptile or a monster Burmese python. He's huge, but he's friendly!



1.00 PM - CROCODILE FEEDING



Feed-A-Croc-Townsville

The most exciting show of the day—a powerful saltwater croc explodes out of the water to snatch food from our Rangers! North Queensland is croc country. Learn how to stay safe while you enjoy our magnificent waterways.

2.00 PM - FREE-FLIGHT BIRD SHOW

Gunther the barn owl swoops silently over your head. Yasi the black kite puts on an amazing display of aerial acrobatics. Meet a curlew and a tawny frogmouth and pose for a photo with Quixote, our cheeky rainbow lorikeet.

2:30 PM – TURTLE FEEDING + TURTLE RACES



Turtle-Race-Townsville

Have some more fun feeding those Krefft's turtles, then cheer on your favorite racing reptile in the ever-popular turtle derby. The winner gets an extra chunk of fish skin!

2:45 PM – DINGO EXPERIENCE

Pat-a-Dingo

Dingoes came to our shores over 18 000 years ago so can be regarded as native animals. Yet they are widely persecuted. In this newly-expanded show, learn more about this misunderstood native animal. Then have a pat and pose for photos with King, Allira or Kalari, our own friendly dingoes. (No extra charge)

3:15 PM – CROCODILE FEEDING



If you missed this spectacular show earlier, here is your chance to see the mighty estuarine crocs in action as they power out of the water for a feed. It's a thrilling spectacle!

3.45 – PM WOMBAT EXPERIENCE **

Hold-A-Wombat. Tickle a Wombat's Toes!

The wombat is the largest burrowing mammal in the world! Learn all about these awesome little diggers. Then come up and give Wanda a pat, or purchase a souvenir photo holding Reuben on your lap!



4:00 PM – KOALA EXPERIENCE **



Hold-A-Koala

Come and meet Banjo in Koala Crescent—give him a pat and take a photo. You may also purchase a souvenir photo as you hold one of our friendly handling koalas.

4:20 PM – REPTILE EXPERIENCE **

Hold-A-Snake

Here's your chance to get up close to some of these fascinating creatures. You can also purchase a souvenir photo with a reptile of your choice.

4:40 – KANGAROO FEEDING



Kangaroo— Feeding

Our friendly free ranging kangaroos gather round the feeder for their afternoon meal. They tend to seek out a shady spot to sleep during the heat of the day, so this is another great opportunity to get up and close for a pat and some photos.

**** Optional Souvenir Photo for a small extra charge. A portion of all proceeds supports Magnetic Island Koala Hospital.**

ATTENTION PARENTS:

For the koalas' safety, as well as that of our visitors, we are required to restrict koala handling to children over 1.2 metres in height (4 feet). A board is posted by the photo area for reference.

Children who do not meet this requirement are still welcome to join Mum and Dad or big brother and sister for a family photo.



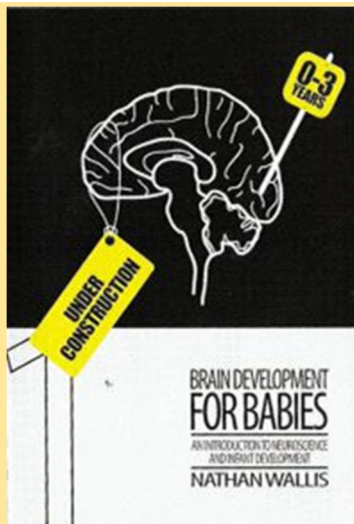


SFC News



Shared Family Care have a number of books/dvds available as resources for you to loan.

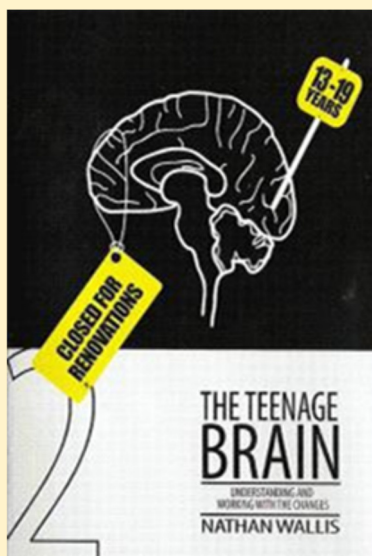
Please speak to your Family Case Worker about loaning either these or other resources, but remember to return these in a timely manner so others can access.



Title: Brain Development for Babies (DVD)

Authors: Nathan Wallis

Information about the human brain has exploded in the last 20 years - we have learnt more than in the previous 300 years! The bad news is that the advice your well-meaning family gives you is largely unaware of any of this. In fact in some cases, the advice they give has now been proven by science to be completely wrong. Nathan Wallis is a New Zealand University Lecturer in Human Development who has built up an international reputation as a lively, humorous and engaging speaker on brain development. This easy to follow introduction allows the parent to separate the myths from the research and describes in a nutshell the stuff parents really want to know - what they can do to help their baby's brain reach full potential. As well as teaching neuroscience, Nathan is a father, step father and foster parents which gives him the insight to be able to apply this knowledge to everyday life.



Title: The Teenage Brain (DVD)

Author: Nathan Wallis

13-19 years. The teenage years can be some of the most rewarding and memorable times we spend with our children, and also some of the hardest parenting we ever do! Many of us think that today's youth are more self-obsessed, defiant and unmotivated than ever before, but a quick look at history tells us this is not new! Plato wrote in the 1st century b.c that teenagers.....now love luxury; they have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for elders and love chatter in the place of exercise. They are now tyrants.....They contradict their parents and tyrannize their teachers. In fact these are inscriptions on the pyramids from 6000 years ago that say the same thing! Brain scans have given us insight into why this is and the radical changes the brain goes through in the teenage years. Understanding these changes and how to best work with them can help us to make those years a much more pleasurable experience! Nathan Wallis gives a straight forward and easy to follow explanation of these changes, with practical and grounded advice on how to navigate our way through the often turbulent, teenage years.



SFC News



Create is currently working on a marketing/comms position and hoping you can assist by sharing some content about the mobile phone app Sortli on your social media platforms and in any other suitable forum? Sortli has been out there for a little while now, however, wanted to send a reminder about the resource and its usefulness.

Have you heard of Sortli? Sortli (short for 'sort out your life') is a free mobile app for young people to help them with their transition to adulthood. It focuses on eight key areas of identity, relationships, finding a place to live, health, finances, gaining education and looking for a job, legal matters and general living skills. Sortli is full of useful information and tools (including a budget calculator) to help young people on their way to becoming adults. Young people can use Sortli independently or assisted by carers or support workers as part of their planning for adulthood. Download Sortli from the app stores now or for more information head to:

http://createyourfuture.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Sortli-Worker-Flyer_Generic2018.pdf - you can also check out a video about Sortli here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnw78HOu5C8>

Any help you can provide would be much appreciated !



Merry Christmas

The year has flown by and we are now coming up to the holiday season.

This means that our office will be closed over a period of time .

Please take note of the following dates:

CLOSING DATE:

Monday the 24th of December– early afternoon

REOPENING DATE:

Wednesday the 2nd of January– at 9am

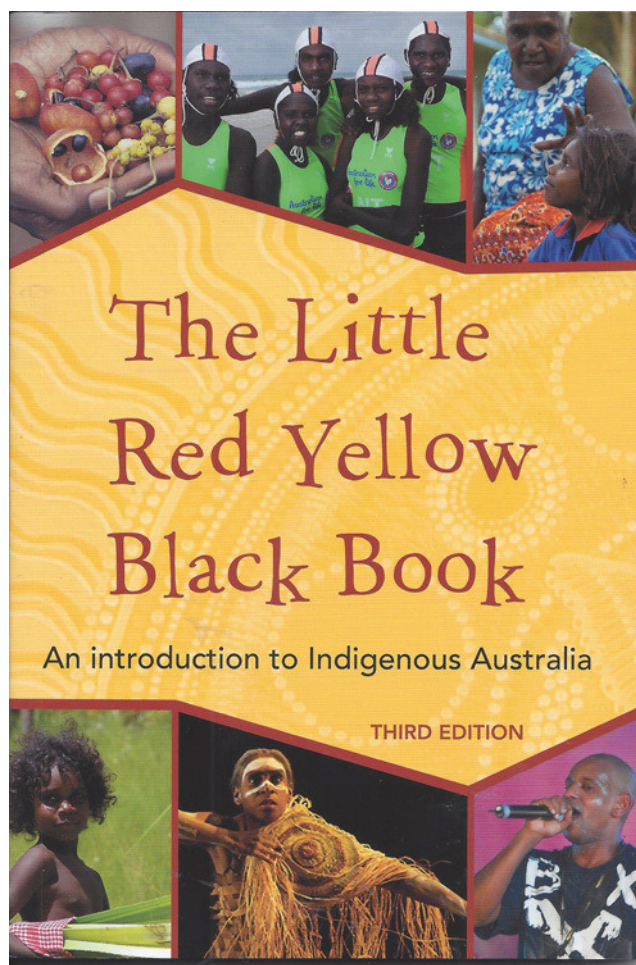
Our staff will be on call 24/7. Please phone
4779 3332 and select from one of the support op-
tions or call SFC directly on 0418 150 229

**WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY & SAFE HOLIDAY AND WE
WILL SEE YOU IN THE NEW YEAR**





SFC News



Have you got your copy of 'The Little Red Yellow Black Book'?

This updated edition of *The Little Red Yellow Black Book* is an authoritative introduction to indigenous Australia. Featuring real-life case studies and covering history, culture, arts, sports, languages, population, health, education and the workforce, governance, resistance, and reconciliation. Written in a first-person, Indigenous voice from an Indigenous perspective, the book offers something for everyone: from sport to educations, arts and theatre to governance, history to Indigenous tour operators, native title to health, and much more.

Shared Family Care is always on the look out for new resources that we feel may be of use to our carers. *The Little Red Yellow Black Book* is a resource we came across that contains a lot of relevant information we feel you would appreciate. During Inductions with your Family Case Worker this book should have been provided to you and your family. If you have not yet received one, please contact your Family Case Worker, and we will organize getting you a copy.

Thank you



Staff List



CURRENT WORKING STAFF AT SHARED FAMILY CARE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Email</u>
Teresa Smith	Program Manager	Teresa.smith@altheaprojects.org.au
Justin Pascoe	Team Leader	Justin.pascoe@altheaprojects.org.au
Jenny Spiers	Senior Prac	Jenny.spiers@altheaprojects.org.au
Ainslee Tirendi	Family Case Worker	Ainslee.tirendi@altheaprojects.org.au
Beverley Barry	Family Case Worker	Beverley.barry@altheaprojects.org.au
Bingya Yuan	Family Case Worker	Bingya.yuan@altheaprojects.org.au
Christopher Sweet	Project Worker	Christopher.sweet@altheaprojects.org.au
Katisha Skeene	Administration	katisha.skeene@altheaprojects.org.au or admin@altheaprojects.org.au
Kelli-Ann May	Quality Manager	Kelli-ann.may@altheaprojects.org.au
Lena Watego	Cultural Support Advisor	Lena.watego@altheaprojects.org.au
Mikayla Johnstone	Family Case Worker	mikaylaj@altheaprojects.org.au
Noni Dicton	Family Case Worker	Noni.dicton@altheaprojects.org.au
Vicki Crees	Family Case Worker	Vicki.crees@altheaprojects.org.au





SFC Planning Day



On Thursday the 22nd of November the SFC team spent the day at the Townsville Yacht Club for our annual Planning Day. The day was full of brain storming and reflecting on the years achievements and what we would like to see happen in 2019. A big thank you to all who participated.



CARER CONNECT

Partners in care

Available from late September!

Following the successful pilot of Carer Connect, the state wide rollout of the app will commence from 24 September 2018.



Carer Connect is a web and mobile friendly app that has been developed to provide Queensland foster and kinship carers with improved and secure access to information and support, when and where they need it.

Registering for the app

Your foster and kinship care agency support worker will assist you to register for Carer Connect at your monthly check-in meeting.

Your support worker will also assist you to understand how to use the app, keep information secure, create a profile and contribute stories and photos to kicbox.

What information is available in the app?

The app contains relevant information and documentation to support an understanding of how the needs of the child or young person in your care can best be supported.

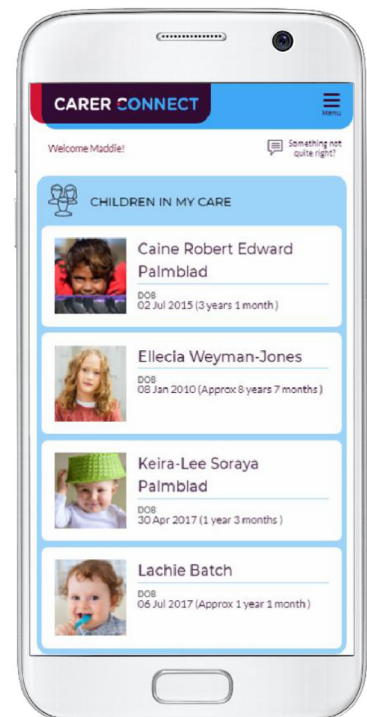
Information available may include:

- Placement agreement and Authority to Care.
- Medical information e.g. serious health condition alert, health passport and immunisations.
- Child Safety contact information, including the after-hours phone number.
- Type of child protection order and expiry date.
- Cultural information and cultural plan (where applicable).
- Current education information.

What can carers do in the app?

In addition to viewing child and carer entity information, you can:

- Upload pictures of your home and family to show a child or young person when they are transitioning to a new placement with you.
- View noticeboard articles that announce everything from training and social events to legislation changes.
- Make contributions to the life story of the child or young person in your care, by posting stories and photos to kicbox.



For more information, including a demo video and user guides visit www.qld.gov.au/carerconnect, or email carerconnect@csyw.qld.gov.au



Respite Changes



Over the past few months you may have noticed a real shift in how Respite is being discussed or viewed by both our program and also the Department of Child Safety. This has occurred firstly as a result of the ongoing decrease in carer numbers while at the same time the number of children entering care increasing causing a shortage of formal respite (and primary) carer availability and secondly due an increase in awareness and understanding as a result of trauma informed theories, research and literature about the potential negative impact of respite upon children in care.

The new Regional Director for Child Safety, Corinne Porta wrote an article entitled “Next Practice Respite Care” (see attached for your information). This article, based upon trauma informed research, emphasizes that children in care are at a high risk for having or developing attachment disorders therefore their need for a sense of security, belonging and permanency is crucial to their healthy development and long term overall wellbeing. The article explored the language use around respite as being quite carer focused in nature rather than in language suggestive of ‘what’s in the best interest of the child’. For instance, respite in the foster care context is often referred to as being about providing a foster carer and/or their family with a break from the foster child. Respite referred to in this context is carer focused rather than being about the child’s needs and does not consider a foster child’s trauma and attachment history of which is often based upon multiple traumatic separations.

Our agency was involved in discussions with Corinne about how respite might look going into the future and it was acknowledged that change is necessary but will take time to adopt across our region. All agencies including Althea Projects agree in principle with this shift in focus. We all agree that respite or a short break is a legitimate support strategy and will not be removed as such but respite and short breaks can occur through a variety of more natural ways other than a child going from stranger to stranger as a result of poor formal respite carer availability.

Think about the potential messages a child can take from these following real respite scenarios:

- They are the only child in the household that is ever put into respite
- They are put in respite most weekends and on most school holidays
- They are being put in respite on special occasions, ie their birthdays, Easter Sunday, Christmas day, when their carer has family celebration events etc.
- They have been sent to respite but know their carer will be having other children in their home for respite at the same time, maybe those children will even be using their bed while they are away on their respite
- They are going on respite because the family is going on a family holiday
- They are being sent to respite because they misbehaved during the week.

Some more natural ways for respite and short breaks could include:

- Consider not using the term respite with the child and instead what about the term ‘sleep over’



Respite Changes



- Work with Althea Projects and Child Safety to identify a suitable ongoing respite carer. Develop a relationship with this carer first and then slowly introduce the child to them, then introduce the 'sleep overs'. Maintain contact with the child during these sleep overs.
- Consider a mutual agreement between yourself and another carer in your network with a 48 hour arrangement
- Consider your own support network and use the 48 hour option
- What arrangements would you make for your children?
- Use after school care
- Use day care or family day care
- Use vacation care
- Meet the child's school friends and their parents for future playdates and sleepovers
- If using formal stranger respite then contact them prior to the start of the respite and establish rapport, take the child to the respite yourself and settle them in. Let the child know they can contact you if they need to while on their sleep over

On a final note, respite should never be used as a punishment for behaviour because to do so is a standard of care issue.

Changes that will impact upon you going forward will include the following;

- In future when you request respite you will be asked if have you explored all your informal supports, day care, family day care to determine if you have any alternatives.
- If formal respite is still required please notify your Family Case Worker giving plenty of notice and we will still endeavour to identify a respite carer and organize this well in advance. This is not always possible due to the lack of available carers. Also be aware that all formal requests will now require the CSSC Managers endorsement prior to being approved.
- Your Family Case Worker may undertake an ecomap with you to identify any potential supports or a respite carer
- During your interviews for your renewal assessment your Family Case Workers will discuss your supports with you (both informal and formal) and will include these within the assessment
- Supports will now be listed in your Foster Carer Agreement, Kinship Carer Agreement or Placement Agreements.

Please feel free to contact your Family Case Worker to discuss further.

Teresa Smith, Program Manager





Carer Tribute



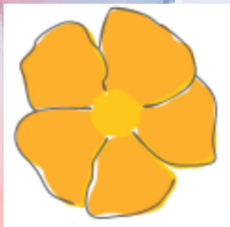
NORM BARTHOLOMEW

22/02/1928 - 07/11/2018



All of Althea Projects would like to pay our respect to one of Shared Family Care's beloved Foster Carers, Norm Bartholomew, who passed away on the 7th of November 2018. Norm and his wife Judy have provided care to many children for over a decade.

We'd like to wish our deepest sympathies to the Bartholomew family as they go through this difficult time.



Kids Corner– Tissue Paper Transfer Art



Step 1– Cut the tissue paper into different shapes and sizes. Go wild! The more crazy the shape, the more interesting the art work will turn out.

Step 2– Lay down the canvas and use the spray bottle to wet the canvas. Make sure that the canvas is fairly wet, this will help the shapes to stick better, and help the colors to transfer.

Step 3– Grab your shapes and place them flat all over your canvas. Create any design you like. Let your imagination run wild!

Step 4– Once all the shapes you like are placed on the canvas, use the spray bottle once again to spray a little more water over all of the tissue paper.

Step 5– Wait 20 minutes, and then remove the tissue paper. After you've taken it all off let the canvas dry completely, and there you have your amazing artwork to hang up for everyone to see!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- **Colored Tissue Paper**
- **A spray bottle filled with water**
- **A blank canvas**





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