

Membership Application Form



Foster Care Association of Victoria Inc (the Association)

I, _____
(First name) (Surname)

of _____
(Address) (Post Code)

Home Phone Business Phone Mobile Phone

Email address _____

Occupation _____

Please check the box indicating the basis on which this application is being made.

Ordinary Membership criteria:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Person providing Home Based Care*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Former provider of Home Based Care*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Person over 21 years of age who is or has been in Home Based Care*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Person with expertise required by the Board of Directors who in the opinion of the Board of Directors holds values consistent with the purposes of the association

Associate Member criteria:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any person not meeting the Ordinary Member criteria above

I am a (please circle) FOSTER KINSHIP PERMANENT ADOPTIVE PREVIOUS CARER SUPPORTER

In the event of my admission as an Associate Member I acknowledge that as an Associate Member I will have the rights and responsibilities of Ordinary Members other than voting rights and I will not have the right to be nominated for or hold office.

In the event of my admission as an Ordinary Member or Associate Member, I agree to be bound by the **rules of the Association.

(Signature of the applicant)

(Date)

*Home based Care means foster care or permanent care converted from a prior foster care arrangement

** FCAV rules are available at www.fcav.org

The FCAV Board of Directors meet on a monthly basis and membership applications are considered at that time. You will receive formal acknowledgement of the outcome of your application after that time.

Members' personal details will be kept in accordance with the Association's privacy policy which may be obtained from the Association or can be viewed at www.fcav.org

Please post to FCAV Inc, 48 High Street, Northcote, VIC, 3070 or fax to (03) 9489 9119.

11/09: Office Use Only: Membership Approved: YES / NO. Date approved: _____ Membership Number: _____

Why become a Foster Care Association of Victoria (FCAV) member? Here are 12 great reasons:

Here at FCAV our Mission is to strengthen foster families and enhance the wellbeing of the children in their care.

As a foster carer, there are several ways that FCAV can assist you:

Support

- ✓ Provides you with an independent perspective on questions or concerns you have relating to foster care.
- ✓ Provide clarification about your rights and responsibilities as a foster carer.
- ✓ Attendance at meetings for support.
- ✓ Regional visits to carer groups to learn what issues are effecting carers in your area.
- ✓ Act as another support if you are experiencing difficulties with your foster child.

Information Sharing

- ✓ Bring you up-to-date information about foster care through regular newsletters and e-News publications.
- ✓ Provide you with accurate and concise information through our Info Sheet series.
- ✓ Provide you with an informative and easy to navigate website.
- ✓ Offer training opportunities (some free) with leading practitioners in raising foster children.
- ✓ Provide summaries of staff and/or carer attendance at training, seminars and conferences to ensure the information learned is shared across our carer membership.

Advocacy

- ✓ At the policy level, we represent your views and work to improve the foster care system through government consultation to influence policy development.
- ✓ Our participation in policy, sector and government working groups ensures the interests of carers are considered in all levels of policy and best practice.

Get help/ have your say/ create change/ join voices

Your community service organisation or foster care agency undertakes your caregiver assessment, facilitates training and is the contact for and offers support to you in your caring role with children and/or young people.

Separate to this, the FCAV is the voice of foster carers and as this voice, works to improve the system for the children and young people we care for. FCAV responds to government consultations to influence policy development. We also drive action on themes that we see emerging through carers calling the Carer Info & Support Service (CISS)# and as the voice of foster care to represent your views in our responses to Government.

Become a member of FCAV, *it's free*, and add your views as foster care families to our work and assist in ensuring a better system for our young people.

Help & Information is available via #CISS at www.fcav.org.au, b.laister@fcav.org
or (03) 94899770 Mon – Thu 9am-5pm and Fri 9am-4pm