



# ANNUAL REPORT

2008-09

FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF  
VICTORIA INC.

### **Our Vision**

For all children in care to be cherished, connected and treated with compassion.

### **Our Mission**

To strengthen foster families and enhance the wellbeing of the children in their care.

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### FCAV Statement of Purposes

- ◆ To advance a compassionate and effective care system that ensures the nurturing and protection of foster children; supports the needs of foster families and acknowledges the role of the biological family;
- ◆ To represent the needs of children/young people living in foster care as voiced by their foster carer;
- ◆ To promote a foster care system in which foster carers and their families can effectively help, nurture and care for foster children;
- ◆ To promote a foster care system that is safe for the foster children and foster families;

FCAV seeks to achieve these purposes by (but are not limited to):

- ◆ Providing and facilitating information sharing, offering advice and support, and encouraging support networks for the foster carers;
- ◆ Research, collection and dissemination of information on or relating to foster care for carers, agencies, Department of Human Services (DHS) and other interested parties;
- ◆ Promoting and encouraging foster carers and the recognition of the important role they and their families play in the foster care community;
- ◆ Assisting all participants in the care system to develop policies, practices and guidelines to enhance the cultural connectedness, nurturing and protection of the foster children and that supports the needs of the foster families;
- ◆ Promoting and ensuring the facilitation of effective training and on-going development for foster carers;

### Strategic Intent

The FCAV and the idea of offering support to strengthen foster care families was conceived by an amazing group of foster carers. Through their passion and with the support of many in the sector, FCAV was incorporated in May 1992. Enhanced government funding was secured for the organisation in 2004.

The development of the 2009 – 2012 Strategic Plan is a vital step forward for FCAV. In developing the Strategic Plan the Committee wants to see:

- ◆ An engaged and fully supported membership base;
- ◆ An increased awareness of issues facing young Indigenous people in the care system;
- ◆ A Comprehensive Resource Centre, including a vibrant and active website;
- ◆ Systemic advocacy based on foster carers' views;
- ◆ Strong partnerships with DHS, Community Service Organisations (CSOs), The Centre for Excellence, Post Placement Support Services (PPSS), The Mirabel Foundation, the CREATE Foundation and The Office of the Child Safety Commissioner (OCSC);
- ◆ Secure and sustainable funding;
- ◆ Well resourced staff, highly skilled to undertake the activities of the organisation.

In order to get FCAV to achieve this vision, the following four strategic priorities have been agreed upon:

### **Strategic Priority 1 Support Services**

To deliver relevant, quality support services to foster carers across the State:

- ◆ Improve the level of information and resources to foster carers including ensuring it is relevant to Indigenous foster carers and non-Indigenous foster carers caring for Indigenous young people;
- ◆ Redevelop the website;
- ◆ Improve the quality and content of the newsletter;
- ◆ Secure ongoing funding for the Help Line & continue to enhance the support offered to foster carers;
- ◆ Provide individual support, advocacy and referral on complex issues;
- ◆ Advocate for and ensure the offer of training for foster carers;
- ◆ Determine the role and function of FCAV in terms of support groups and networks;

### **Strategic Priority 2 Policy and Advocacy**

To contribute to the continuing development of a service system that best meets the needs and interests of children/ young people in foster care:

- ◆ Develop policy positions and actively promote these widely;
- ◆ Work with key agencies and peak bodies in advocacy for system improvement and required reform;
- ◆ Collect and report on data from foster carers re: emerging trends/ issues that will inform policy and service system improvement;
- ◆ Represent the voice of children, young people and foster carers in a range of key stakeholder forums and advisory groups;

### **Strategic Priority 3 Connections with Foster Carers & Stakeholders**

To strengthen & grow our connection with foster carers and key stakeholders across the State:

- ◆ Promote understanding by foster carers of FCAV;
- ◆ Hold an annual State-wide Carers Conference;
- ◆ Gather information on the needs of foster carers to feed into policy development and advocacy;
- ◆ Undertake regional visits;
- ◆ Continue to build and strengthen relationships with Community Service Organisations;
- ◆ Continue to build relationships with government and key groups in the foster care sector (The Centre, CREATE Foundation, Mirabel Foundation, Post Placement Support Service and Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency);

### **Strategic Priority 4 Organisation Governance and Capacity**

To grow FCAV's capacity to ensure foster carers are fully supported and have their voice heard through improved business and organisational processes:

- ◆ Review and update organisational roles and responsibilities;
- ◆ Review financial delegations and establish a system for periodic review of policy and procedure;
- ◆ Strengthen governance capacity;
- ◆ Grow members' confidence in AGM and voting arrangements;
- ◆ Maximise volunteer contribution of members through support networks including pro bono contributions;
- ◆ Increasing independent funding and government investment – e.g. apply for tender opportunities;
- ◆ Ensure office infrastructure is well resourced to meet the needs of the organisation;

## A MESSAGE FROM KIM REA

President



Our Committee of Management has seen FCAV re-focus its efforts on supporting our membership through a well developed strategic plan and a reinvigorated team led by Katie Hooper.

We have been well supported with our re-focus on serving our membership via a Reference Group of Community Service Organisations and senior management within DHS. It has been a real inspiration to see so many people working to advance the interests of children in the care of our members. It was great also to see this level of co-operation and partnership endorsed at our Special General Meeting where the constitutional changes required to support our focus were approved unanimously by our members.

The thanks of our Committee of Management are extended especially to Katie Hooper whose leadership of FCAV has seen many changes to the manner in which our organisation responds to the needs of our members. The new look and greater regularity of our newsletter are especially pleasing.

We are indebted also to Cas O'Neill, who served two terms as our Acting Executive Officer and Beth Parker in her very valuable role as our Help Line Coordinator and who also helped out with Executive Officer roles earlier in the year. Both Cas and Beth have had more than their fair share of family stresses and loss during the last year and we are especially thankful for the contributions they have made under very stressful circumstances.

To our students who have contributed to the team's efforts during the year we also extend our thanks.

I would like to personally thank each of the Committee Members who have served during the last year for their tireless support of our Executive Officer and her team. My thanks especially to those Committee Members who have chosen to retire by the close of this year's annual general meeting being Reg Sharp and Val Norris (our inaugural kinship Committee Members) and Janet Elefsiniotis.

My thanks also to you, our members, who continue to care for children whose birth families are unable to provide for them for so many and varied reasons.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Rea". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Kim Rea**  
**President**

## A MESSAGE FROM KATIE HOOPER

Executive Officer



This Executive Officer's report is being written on behalf of Cas O'Neill and myself. We have both enjoyed the opportunities that arise from reflecting on practice and program (organisation) development. It has also been a year of connection with FCAV's membership base, totalling 933.

The 2008-2009 year has been one of consolidation resulting in a focus on communication with membership, including the membership data base review and development, newsletter and mail out improvements and a new commitment to regional visits. The consolidation phase of FCAV's operation has also led to a new strategic plan, *FCAV Strategic Plan 2009-2012*, - being implemented and a re-commitment to ensuring that through the voice of foster carers, outcomes for children and young people be improved. The *FCAV Strategic Plan 2009-2012* contains clear direction for the office.

FCAV has also been a key player in the sector reforms and following the publication of the Department of Human Services document, *Directions for out of home care*, (May 2009) is working with other sector representatives to ensure a child-centred service continuum. Our focus in these reforms is the development of better choices of care placement for children and young people.

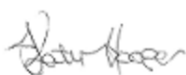
Robust working relationships are vital to progressing our goals and we want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the strong partnerships we have with the Post Placement Support Service (PPSS), the Department of Human Services (DHS) and to thank the Ian Potter Foundation for their funding support. Thanks also to The Office of the Child Safety Commissioner (OCSC), CREATE Foundation, Mirabel Foundation, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency, The Centre of Excellence in Child and Family Welfare and all Community Service Organisations for their ongoing support and focus on foster care.

FCAV has three staff – the Executive Officer, the Help Line Coordinator (Beth Parker) and the Office Support (Gabbi Dalsasso, previously Jenny Clayfield), as well as our part-time Bookkeeper (Andrew Mamalis). Following such a busy and productive year, it is a good time to celebrate what the Committee, staff, our wonderful volunteers (Paul Addis, Graeme McCallum, Bill Symonds, Ron Charles, Meg Vitale) and our dedicated students (Kate Badham, Anna Pira, Belinda Podesta, Christie Allan and Brooke Adams) have achieved. The following outcomes have really set FCAV up for a great year ahead:

- ◆ The consolidation of our Carer Information and Support Service (formally the FCAV / PPSS Carer Help Line) and the establishment of the advisory group which will assist in the ongoing development of the service;
- ◆ A successful Carer Celebration Day in Sept 2008 at the Collingwood Children's Farm;
- ◆ Attendance at the International Foster Care Organisation (IFCO) 2009 Dublin conference, as well as attendance at the National Foster Care Conference in Sydney in November 2008 and the National Foster Care Conference, in March 2009 in Perth;
- ◆ Implementation of the FCAV / PPSS Fact Sheets series;
- ◆ Involvement in stakeholder working groups and DHS policy development;

The year has culminated in a new FCAV constitution, *Statement of Purposes and Rules 2009*, which will ensure stability on the Committee and therefore the governance of FCAV; a clear direction forward for FCAV's Carer Information and Support Service and the launch of a new FCAV website which we hope will better service our members and the wider community.

Many thanks to the Committee of Management, staff, volunteers, students, members and supporters for allowing FCAV the space to consolidate and the support to continue to strive for better outcomes for the children and young people we all care for.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Hooper".

**Katie Hooper**  
Executive Officer

### **Help Line – The FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service**

This service has been available to carers for well over 12 months now. It is great to have some clear statistics about the kinds of information and support carers are requesting from FCAV (see Annual Report page 9). The establishment of an advisory group which includes; FCAV, PPSS, OCSC, DHS, Mirabel Foundation, The Centre for Excellence and Community Service Organisation representation, has been invaluable to the progress of the service and we thank all representatives for their involvement.

The next 12 months will focus on capturing the types of services sought by carers, for example information, referral, support and advocacy, as well as the frequency of these supports and time requirements. The service will also work on a clear communication pathway with CSOs and DHS to ensure that current themes are considered and actions taken where possible.

### **Fact Sheet development**

The inception of the Fact Sheet idea is an exciting one. It is hoped that regularly asked questions will result in an information sheet being developed and made available to all members, CSOs and on the FCAV and PPSS websites.

Completed to date are:

- ◆ Becoming a Foster Carer (launched 08/09)
- ◆ Respite Care Policy (launched 08/09)
- ◆ Victorian Law Resource Guide (launched 08/09)
- ◆ Leaving Care Financial Guide (launched 08/09)
- ◆ Being Prepared for a New Foster Care Placement (launched 09/10)

In development and concept phase are:

- ◆ Quality of Care Processes
- ◆ Leaving Care Skills Guide
- ◆ Building and Maintaining Effective Working Relationships
- ◆ Permanent Care
- ◆ Court Orders and Procedures

### **Refocus on connection with membership**

The huge job of **membership database development** was undertaken in early 2009 by staff and social work students. This project involved consolidation of a number of databases, clean up of the information, development of a new spread sheet and population of the spread sheet/ database. FCAV is delighted with the result which means we can more accurately and easily communicate with members and non members.

- ◆ In the year ahead we hope to obtain more email addresses for members so we can get information out to members as necessary, increase membership registration with FCAV, clarify the difference between members and associate members and ensure clear communication and services to members.
- ◆ We are proud of the **6 new look newsletters** published in 2008/2009. They were all of high quality and we are committed to getting the newsletter to members in whatever form is most useful to them be it a printed copy in the mail or emailed soft copy.
- ◆ We are also thrilled with the response we have had to our **'e-news'** publications, which are issuing to those members with email addresses registered with us on the alternate month to the newsletter.
- ◆ FCAV wants to ensure that the content of the newsletter continues to be of high quality, informative and relevant to all foster carers;
- ◆ Special thanks to Meg Vitale a foster carer and Director at [bumbleberry.com.au](http://bumbleberry.com.au) a boutique design studio for her efforts in developing FCAV's **new website**.



## Achievements 2008–2009

### **Regional Visits**

2008/2009 saw a number of informative **regional visits** occur. Visits to carers in:

- ◆ Wangaratta (Upper Murray Family Care)
- ◆ Geelong (Glastonbury and MacKillop Family Services)
- ◆ Warrnambool (Community Connections and Brophy)
- ◆ Gippsland (Kilmany Uniting Care)
- ◆ Ballarat (Child and Family Services)
- ◆ Bendigo (St Luke's)

FCAV is committed to further regional visits in the upcoming year and is excited about holding regional workshops in 2009/2010.



### **Celebration Day**

Hosted by FCAV and The Centre for Excellence in September 2008, at Collingwood Children's Farm, Celebration Day was a huge success and was reported on in last year's Annual Report.



### **DHS / FCAV Reference Group**

A Reference Group, established in late 2008, undertook a process of consultation and planning in partnership with the FCAV and a number of other key stakeholders. The aim was to examine and identify the most sustainable and effective direction for FCAV member services into the future. This Reference Group included representation from:

- ◆ Community Service Organisations (CSOs)
- ◆ FCAV Committee Members, past and present
- ◆ DHS Branch including the Director of Child Protection & Family Services
- ◆ The Office of the Child Safety Commissioner
- ◆ The Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare
- ◆ CREATE Foundation, and
- ◆ Several carer representatives from rural and metropolitan regions

This representation provided experience in the provision of foster care, kinship care, respite care, permanent care and permanent care conversions.

The Reference Group worked in partnership, to identify a number of consolidated and meaningful priorities for the FCAV moving into 2009-2012. These priorities grew from an extremely successful strategic planning process, led by FCAV and DHS in partnership. These priorities maintain a focus on both the best interests of children and young people, and the needs of foster care families.

### **Outcomes for FCAV 2009-2012**

- ◆ Clarity of FCAV mission and purpose. FCAV continues to provide foster carer support, networking, advice, advocacy, research, & also consultancy to DHS. FCAV acts as a peak body, providing member services and a voice for Victorian foster families, and acting in the best interests of children and young people. For the purposes of clarifying the role of the FCAV, the definition of foster carer has been broadened to include situations where foster care placements transition to permanent care through the granting of an appropriate legal order.
- ◆ Membership Services will be specific to foster carers and/or permanent carers that have been through a conversion process.
- ◆ All kinship or permanent carers, community members and adoptive parents who are current FCAV members, will continue to receive membership services for the period of their membership.

### **Stakeholder Liaison & Working Groups:**

The Foster Care Association of Victoria Inc. is represented on the following groups:

- ◆ Australian Foster Care Association (AFCA)
- ◆ Australian Foster and Kinship Carer Partnership
- ◆ Foster Care Communication & Recruitment Strategy (FCCRS) convened by The Centre for Excellence
- ◆ Foster Care Recruitment and Publicity Advisory Group (FCRPAC) convened by The Centre for Excellence
- ◆ Kinship Care State-wide Network
- ◆ Leaving Care State-wide Forum convened by St Luke's, Bendigo
- ◆ Office of the Child Safety Commissioner Meetings (OCSC) with FCAV
- ◆ Create & OCSC Be Heard Project
- ◆ Rainbow Family Council of Victoria

### **Policy Consultations**

#### **DHS Policy Consultations:**

The Foster Care Association of Victoria Inc has regular liaison meetings with senior Child Protection and Placement and Support staff at the Department of Human Services and is represented at:

- ◆ Advanced Training/Shared Learning Reference Group
- ◆ Coalition for Change Conferences
- ◆ Family Services & Child Protection Advisory Group
- ◆ Carer Register Working Group
- ◆ Including Children and Young People in Decision Making
- ◆ Looking After Children Working Group
- ◆ Leaving Care Central Advisory Group
- ◆ North West Home Based Care Forum
- ◆ Quality of Care Working Group
- ◆ Therapeutic Foster Care Working Group
- ◆ Audit and Review of Caregiver Reimbursements Steering Committee

### **Sector Partnerships**

The Foster Care Association of Victoria Inc. continues to work in partnership and / or consultation with the following organisations:

- ◆ Australian Foster Care Association
- ◆ Australian Foster and Kinship Carer Partnership
- ◆ Department of Human Services
- ◆ The Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare
- ◆ CREATE Foundation
- ◆ The Mirabel Foundation
- ◆ Office of the Child Safety Commissioner
- ◆ Post Placement Support Service (Vic) Inc
- ◆ Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency

### **Responses to Policy Documents**

The Foster Care Association of Victoria Inc has provided responses to the Department of Human Services on the following policy documents:

- ◆ Response to Parenting the Second Time Around (Aug 2008)
- ◆ Kinship Care Program Model (Dec 2008)
- ◆ *Be Heard* Survey (Jul to Oct 2008)
- ◆ Adoption and Permanent Care Consultation (Feb 2009)
- ◆ Statutory Declaration and Information Booklet for Kinship Carers (Feb 2009 through the Office of the Child Safety Commissioner)
- ◆ Submission to Productivity Commission regarding inclusion of carers into the definition of those eligible for paid maternity leave (Nov 2008, through The Office of Child Safety Commissioner).

## A MESSAGE FROM BETH PARKER

Help Line Coordinator



There has been a great deal of work done this year to define the purpose of the FCAV / PPSS Carer Help Line and the role it plays in supporting carers. Part of this work has been deciding on a change of name for the Help Line to the Carer Information and Support Service, which we hope offers carers further clarification of the role and service provision of the phone line.

Under the guidance, and with the support of the FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service Advisory Group, we have been able to identify the scope of the Carer Information and Support Service in light of the re-focusing of the FCAV to support only foster carers and foster carers who have transitioned to permanent care.

As the Carer Information and Support Service is a joint venture between FCAV and PPSS, it has been important to make this distinction for the Support Service to continue to extend support to kinship, adoptive and permanent carers across Victoria. The Carer Information and Support Service Statement of Purpose and target constituency has been defined as follows:

### **FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service: Statement of Purpose**

The FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service provides information, support, referrals and advocacy to all carers of children and young people living in home based care. Through supporting and advocating for carers we aim to represent the needs of children / young people living in home based care.

The FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service has four main aims:

- ◆ Provision of accurate and clear information via phone calls, both organisation's websites, newsletters and fact sheets;
- ◆ Referrals to appropriate agencies for specialised and targeted support and assistance;
- ◆ Phone conversations, one on one meetings and (occasional) attendance at meetings for support;
- ◆ Advocacy with CSOs and government on issues impacting carers, and on children and young people in home based care;

### **FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service: Target Constituency**

The FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service is available to all carers of children and young people living in home based care in Victoria. In addition, the Carer Information and Support Service is available to CSOs and government for information on issues impacting carers or for the support of carers of children and young people living in home based care.

## A MESSAGE FROM BETH PARKER

Help Line Coordinator

### Statistics 2008-2009

The FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service Database was established in July 2008, allowing for the first time, true and accurate recording of concern/issue related data from calls received by the Carer Information and Support Service. The following information summarises the annual call statistics and breakdown of carer concerns as at 30 June 2009.

A total of 237 contacts were recorded to the FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service Database from July 2008 to June 2009, with a total of 476 separate issues identified and recorded for statistical purposes. Here are some key annual statistics for 2008-2009:

Total contacts received:                      Calls: 209    Emails: 25    Letters: 2    Faxes: 1

Average call time:                                33 minutes

Average file handling time:                    47 minutes

89.5% of concerns responded to within 2 business days of receiving the contact

Contact received from:

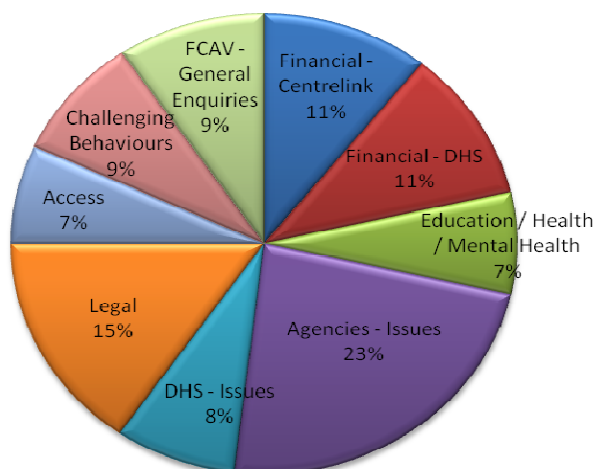
143 Foster Carers	6 Kinship Carers – Statutory	18 Others (workers, etc)
20 Kinship Carers	4 Kinship/Permanent Carers	
17 Permanent Carers	2 Respite Carers	
15 Foster/Perm Carers	2 Kinship Carers – Non-Statutory	
8 Adoptive Parents	2 Adolescent Community Placement	

### Analysis and Summary

The following slide details the breakdown of issues as reported to the FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service in 2008-2009 by category:

#### Breakdown of caller concerns

476 concerns identified in 2008-09



Of the 476 issues raised by carers with the Carer Information and Support Service in 2008-2009, 23% of the concerns were agency related issues with the combined Department of Human Services categories representing a further 19% of carer concerns.

## A MESSAGE FROM BETH PARKER

Help Line Coordinator

### Funding

The following funding submissions were submitted by the FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service in the financial year to 30 June 2009:

◆ Telstra Sponsorship	Submitted Oct 08	Declined
◆ William Buckland Foundation	Submitted Dec 08	Declined
◆ Jack Brockhoff Foundation	Submitted Mar 08	Declined
◆ Paul Newman's Own Foundation	Submitted May 09	Declined
◆ FaHCSIA	Submitted May 09	Declined
◆ Ian Potter Foundation	Submitted May 09	<b>Approved</b>
◆ OPTUS Connecting Community Grants Program	Submitted Jun 09	Declined

While it was disappointing to have such little success with funding submissions over the last twelve months, we were thrilled to secure a \$15,000 funding grant through the Ian Potter Foundation for the FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service. This funding will go towards the development of further fact sheets, the development of the FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service website and the conducting of a carer survey, scheduled for early 2010. The carer survey will look at how carers have found the service offered through the FCAV / PPSS Carer Information and Support Service to assist us in determining what improvements and enhancements we can offer to the service.

### Reporting

In the coming months we will adapt the database to enable additional reporting options. Our intention is to be able to capture and report on the following data:

- ◆ Core principles – information, referral, support, advocacy: % of files within each principle;
- ◆ 'One off' calls - % of calls handled and resolved within the first call – no follow up required;
- ◆ 'Within the hour' calls - % of calls requiring minimal follow up – matter resolved within 1 hour; This reporting will include a breakdown of the work required, including emails, phone calls and investigative methods used.
- ◆ 'Multiple contact' calls - % of calls requiring significant follow up, including face to face support; This reporting will include a breakdown of the hours spent actively working on the file including emails, phone calls, attendance at meetings, etc.
- ◆ Fact Sheet development time;
- ◆ Funding submission time.



**Beth Parker**  
Help Line Coordinator



## A MESSAGE FROM DAVID SELBY SMITH

Treasurer



FCAV have had a challenging year financially, caused by the structural review, the financial environment, and the change of Executive Officer during the year. Nevertheless, the organisation has recorded a small surplus for the year, which has been delivered through strong financial stewardship by the Committee of Management and day to day control by the Executive Officer.

However the continuing demand for services and support which we expect in the coming year is forecasted to deliver a deficit for the financial year ending June 2010. For this reason the organisation will continue to require strong financial leadership.

Overall I am pleased to advise that the organisation is in a strong financial position, with net assets having increased during the financial year ending 30 June 2009, and current strong cash reserves to meet the foreseeable future challenges of the organisation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Selby Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**David Selby Smith**  
**Treasurer**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2009**


**FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC. ABN 30 747 010 099**

**Directors' Declaration**

The directors of the company declare that:

1. the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards and:
  - (a) give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2009 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
2. in the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

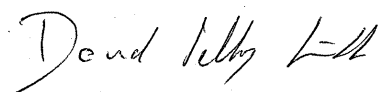
This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



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KIM REA

Director



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DAVID SELBY SMITH

Director

Dated: 19 November 2009

**FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC ABN 30 747 010 099**  
**Detailed Profit and Loss Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2009**

	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Interest received	8,001	10,899
Sponsorship		967
Conference Fees		111,637
Sales		1,840
DHS Grants	234,444	228,336
Donations	50	1,709
Other Grants	<u>48,873</u>	<u>5,455</u>
Total income	<u>291,367</u>	<u>360,842</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Awards		6,172
Advertising and promotion	1,972	3,723
Audit fees	764	636
Bank Fees And Charges	226	312
Book Keeper	7,470	3,897
Catering & Consumables		87,059
Child Care	2,062	2,431
Cleaning/rubbish removal	2,430	2,030
Computer Supplies	674	2,071
Conference/seminar costs	4,392	11,955
Consultants fees	6,609	36,289
Depreciation - plant	3,486	2,260
Depreciation - other	1,997	1,213
Presentations	943	1,912
Electricity	1,214	2,947
Hire/rent of Plant & Equipment	145	26,338
Hire: venue	5,535	12,945
Insurance	685	579
Legal fees	68	
Materials & supplies	22	39
Photocopying	675	1,111
Postage	7,147	8,044
Printing	9,952	17,406
Stationery - Office Supplies	2,553	6,365
Recruitment expenses		1,697
Re-Imbursements	1,836	
Rent on land & buildings	19,073	18,247
Repairs & maintenance	782	2,061
Staff amenities	7,994	73
Subscriptions	399	2,214
Sundry expenses	226	28
Superannuation	13,933	8,583
Telephone	6,979	7,934
Travel, accommodation & conference	8,734	5,332
Mileage Allowance	8,635	7,047
Salary sacrifice		22,677
Wages	155,892	87,867
Workcover	<u>2,306</u>	<u>1,650</u>
Total expenses	<u>287,808</u>	<u>403,147</u>
<b>Profit from ordinary activities before income tax</b>	<b>3,559</b>	<b>(42,305)</b>
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities		
<b>Net profit attributable to the association</b>	<b><u>3,559</u></b>	<b><u>(42,305)</u></b>
<b>Total changes in equity of the association</b>	<b><u>3,559</u></b>	<b><u>(42,305)</u></b>
Opening retained profits	158,775	201,080
Net profit attributable to the association	<u>3,559</u>	<u>(42,305)</u>
<b>Closing retained profits</b>	<b><u>162,334</u></b>	<b><u>158,775</u></b>

**FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC ABN 30 747 010 099**  
**Detailed Balance Sheet As At 30 June 2009**

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash Assets</b>			
Bendigo Bank A/C 127706414		152,307	172,409
Cash on hand		492	192
Rental Bond		3,480	3,480
Events Account		<u>1,000</u>	<u>          </u>
		<u>157,280</u>	<u>176,081</u>
<b>Receivables</b>			
Trade debtors		<u>1,073</u>	<u>5,329</u>
		<u>1,073</u>	<u>5,329</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u><b>158,353</b></u>	<u><b>181,410</b></u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
<b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>			
Office furniture		8,822	8,822
Less: Accumulated depreciation		(4,976)	(4,015)
Plant & equipment - at cost		30,193	21,803
Less: Accumulated depreciation		(13,522)	(10,036)
Computer at cost		10,270	3,397
Less: Accumulated depreciation		<u>(1,047)</u>	<u>(11)</u>
		<u>29,739</u>	<u>19,960</u>
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<u><b>29,739</b></u>	<u><b>19,960</b></u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><b>188,092</b></u>	<u><b>201,370</b></u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
<b>Unsecured:</b>			
Trade creditors		6,579	5,773
Other creditors (visa card)		12	37
		<u>6,591</u>	<u>5,810</u>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>			
<b>Unsecured:</b>			
Prepayment : Office of Child Safety			18,000
			<u>18,000</u>
<b>Current Tax Liabilities</b>			
GST payable control account		24,532	36,247
Input tax credit control account		(13,427)	(26,945)
GST clearing		(6,530)	(6,591)
Amounts withheld from salary and wages		<u>3,250</u>	<u>3,148</u>
		<u>7,824</u>	<u>5,859</u>
<b>Provisions</b>			
Employee entitlements		<u>11,342</u>	<u>12,926</u>
		<u>11,342</u>	<u>12,926</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u><b>25,758</b></u>	<u><b>42,595</b></u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u><b>25,758</b></u>	<u><b>42,595</b></u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><b>162,334</b></u>	<u><b>158,775</b></u>
<b>Members' Funds</b>			
Accumulated surplus (deficit)		<u>162,334</u>	<u>158,775</u>
<b>Total Members' Funds</b>		<u><b>162,334</b></u>	<u><b>158,775</b></u>

## FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC

### Independent Audit Report to the Members

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#### Scope

We have audited the attached financial report, being a special purpose financial report comprising the Statement by Members of the Committee, Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2009 of FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act [VICTORIA] and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act [VICTORIA]. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.


Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

#### Audit opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents a true and fair view, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC as at 30 June 2009 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Signed on : 19 November 2009



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MRS LETIZIA BARCO, FCPA  
BARCO & ASSOCIATES  
45 JOHNSON STREET KEON PARK 3073

## Our Vision

For all children in care to be cherished, connected  
and treated with compassion.

## Our Mission

To strengthen foster families and enhance the  
wellbeing of the children in their care.

Our acknowledgement and thanks go to the following Committee Members,  
past and present:

### 2008 / 2009 Board of Directors

Kim Rea — President  
Reg Sharp — Vice President  
David Selby Smith — Treasurer  
Tracey Cocks — Secretary  
Joan Graham  
Karen Dobby  
Janet Elefsiniotis  
Val Norris  
Sarah Manly

Our acknowledgement and thanks also go to the  
following staff, students and volunteers in the FCAV  
office:

### Staff

Katie Hooper — Executive Officer  
Cas O'Neill — Acting Executive Officer  
Jo McMahan — Executive Officer  
Beth Parker — Help Line Coordinator  
Kristen Mercieca — Help Line Support  
Jenny Clayfield — Office Coordinator  
Gabbi Dalsasso — Office Coordinator  
Andrew Mamalis — Book Keeper

### Students

Kate Badham  
Anna Pira  
Belinda Podesta  
Christie Allan  
Brooke Adams

### Volunteers

Paul Addis  
Graeme McCallum  
Bill Symonds  
Ron Charles  
Meg Vitale

### 2007 / 2008 Committee of Management

John Woolcock — Acting President  
Kim Rea — Acting Vice President  
Adam McCann — Treasurer  
Tracey Cocks — Secretary  
Janet Attrill  
Sylvia Davey  
Katie Hooper  
Jackie Van de Burgt  
Ian Seal

**Foster Care Association of Victoria Inc.**

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**Facsimile: (03) 9489 9119**

**Website: [www.fcav.org](http://www.fcav.org)**