

12 great reasons to become a member of the Foster Care Association of Victoria (FCAV)



Our Mission at FCAV 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.
- ✓ Provides 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 affecting 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 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 at www.fcav.org.au or by email to b.laister@fcav.org.au or by phone at (03) 9489-9770 Monday – Thursday 9:00 am-5:00 pm and Friday 9am-4pm.