



FOSTER CARE WEEK

7-14 September 2013

Around 2200 of Victoria's most vulnerable children rely on the care of generous strangers when they are unable to live at home.

These volunteer foster carers receive little recognition or support, but play a central role in raising some of our most traumatised and at-risk children.

Foster Care Week provides an opportunity to recognise the contribution these carers make to our community, and discuss much-needed improvements to Victoria's foster care system.

While we have around 1,500 amazing foster carers in our system, a significant shortage remains that is placing additional stress on existing placements.

Victoria's peak body for foster carers – the Foster Care Association of Victoria – is advocating for improvements to the supports provided by our system, which currently requires volunteer carers to heavily subsidise the cost of providing care to this group of children.

Foster Care Week will provide an opportunity to talk about these important issues, while celebrating the incredible work happening within our community that often goes unrecognised.

FOSTER CARE WEEK EVENTS:

- Werribee – 21st August: UnitingCare Werribee Support and Housing
- Leongatha – 7th September: Anglicare, Quantum, UnitingCare Gippsland, Berry Street, Gippscare, Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-op.
- Mildura – 8th September: Mallee Accommodation and Support & Mildura Aboriginal Corporation.
- Bendigo – 10th September: St Luke's Anglicare
- Dandenong – 10th September: Wesley Mission
- Melbourne – 11th September: Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare
- Mt Martha – 12th September: Salvation Army Peninsula Youth and Family Services
- Wodonga – 12th September: Upper Murray Family Care
- Warrnambool – 12th & 13th September: Brophy & MacKillop Family Services
- Geelong – 13th September: Glastonbury & MacKillop Family Services
- Ballarat – 13th September: Child and Family Services
- Melbourne – 13th September: FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA



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