



Aboriginal Family Support Services

Together with the community

Child Protection Reform – Aboriginal Community Engagement Project

Overview

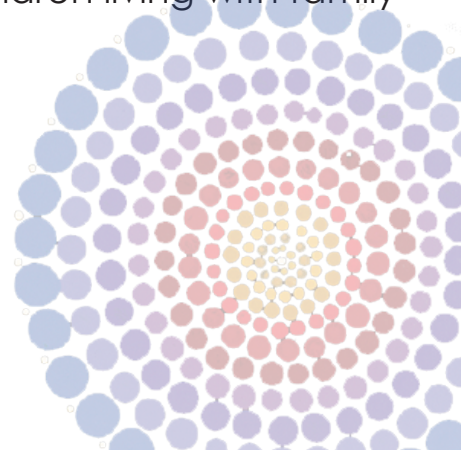
AFSS Child Protection Reform - Aboriginal Community Engagement Project is about helping Aboriginal parents, carers and wider Aboriginal communities understand the changes to the child protection system.

We will do this through engagement with Aboriginal communities, by providing information and education, by holding community forums, gatherings and by connecting you with the right people and services.

It can often be confronting and intimidating when child protection agencies are involved in your family. If you are better informed about the changes, then you can more actively participate in the decisions that will affect you and your children.

It is really important for you to know that AFSS has NO role in removing children from families. This is not our job. AFSS, along with Aboriginal communities, do have a role to make sure all Aboriginal children and young people are safe and secure in their family and cultures. AFSS will make child protection notifications if we feel that children and young people are not safe or if they are being abused or neglected.

Working in partnership, Aboriginal communities and AFSS, must take a lead role in informing DCP about what the issues for community are so that outcomes for Aboriginal children in the child protection system result in more children living with family and kin.



What can you do?

- Talk to AFSS and get involved with our Aboriginal Community Engagement Project. You can also think about becoming an AFSS foster carer, ensuring we have a large pool of Aboriginal foster carers to care for children who are removed from their families. The more carers we have, the better the options of Aboriginal children being placed with Aboriginal families.
- Contact AFSS in your local area and speak with an AFSS worker.
- You can also contact the AFSS Child Protection Reform – Aboriginal Community Engagement Project:

Brigitte Goepfert (Project Officer – Child Protection Reform)

Address: 134 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

Phone: 8205 1500

Mobile: 0499 889 720

Email: brigitte.goepfert@afss.com.au

Other useful contacts:

Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM)

Phone: 1800 643 222 Website: www.alrm.org.au

Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People

Phone: 8226 3355 Email: CommissionerCYP@sa.gov.au

Commissioner for Aboriginal Engagement

Phone: 8226 3500 Email: DPC.CommissionerforAboriginalEngagement@sa.gov.au

Commissioner for Children and Young People

Phone: 8226 3355 Email: CommissionerCYP@sa.gov.au

DCP Central Complaints Unit

Phone: 1800 003 305 Website: www.childprotection.sa.gov.au/department/contact-department/making-complaint

Family Matters

Phone: 8305 4213 Email: joanne@childandfamily-sa.org.au

Office of the Guardian for Children and Young People

Phone: 8226 8570 Email: GCYP@GCYP.sa.gov.au Website: www.gcyp.sa.gov.au

SA Ombudsman

Phone: 1800 182 150 Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.sa.gov.au



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