AUSTRALIAN FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARERS PARTNERSHIP

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2010

"Connected" We Move Forward

27 – 29 AUGUST 2010 WREST POINT HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTRE, HOBART

SPONSORS

REGISTRATION BROCHURE
Over the past year there have been some exciting developments in Tasmania on the child protection and out-of-home care sector arena. For instance we have established single entry points for vulnerable families in each area.

The ‘Gateways’ (as they are known) provide access to family support services. We have amended the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997 to enable the Gateways to receive care and protection notifications.

These initiatives have significantly improved our capacity to provide support for vulnerable families when problems first occur rather than waiting until the stage where the problems are so great that the only option is for child protection to remove the child. A child protection worker is based in each of the four Gateways and they promote close collaboration between the family support and child protection systems.

The Conference is a great way to find out more about what is happening in Tasmania and other places. It is not possible to cover all that is happening during the formal conference program. However, there will be plenty of opportunities for informal discussions between carers and workers.

Hobart is the second oldest and most southern capital city in Australia. Although it is a bit cold in August (plan for a maximum temperature of 13 degrees and make sure that you pack a warm coat) there are lots of things to do and see. There is a good chance that there will be snow on Mount Wellington. The view from the city-centre is wonderful. And a trip up the mountain is a real adventure. Historic Salamanca Place is the home to a festive market every Saturday and there is plenty to see and do in and around Hobart.

I encourage carers from across Australia to attend the 2010 National Foster Carers’ Conference. I am sure that you will have a great time and I look forward to meeting you in August.

Mark Byrne
Chief Executive Officer
Disability, Child, Youth and Family Services

CONFERENCE THEME

The theme of the Conference this year is “Connected” we move forward … as we connect with all community services it gives a more positive connection for children and young people in the Out of Home Care sector. It’s all about being linked with relevant services that are valuable for the development and wellbeing of children and young people and to bring about a positive experience during their time in care.

Ken Aberly
Chair AFKCP

2010 Conference objectives are to provide an opportunity for Foster and Kinship Carers to exchange views, network and learn with other sector professionals from around Australia.

Focus areas for this year’s conference include:

- Professionalising the role of foster carers
- Motivating, mentoring and responsibilities of carers
- Exiting care: plans and support
- Voice of the foster child/young person: being heard
- Stress and trauma
- Children with special care needs
- Developing and maintaining connections

CONFERENCE HOST

Foster Carers Association of Tasmania Inc.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Supported by the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
INVITED SPEAKERS

Mistress of Ceremonies: Paula Hayden

Paula Hayden is a social worker who has worked with children and families for over 25 years. She holds Masters Degree from the University of Sydney.

Since coming to Australia 16 years ago her substantive areas of work has been in OOHC. She co-authored ‘Shared Stories Shared Lives,’ the highly successful training package for foster carers and ‘Step by Step’ a competency-based assessment tool. Paula facilitated the implementation of the training and assessment packages in Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and ACT.

During the last three years she was the social work training co-ordinator in Westmead Children’s and has continued to offer training, supervision and ongoing professional development for organisations and teams in the government and non-government sector.

More recently Paula has been invited to collaborate with the Benevolent Society, AbSec, Dr Marilyn McHugh (University of NSW) to embark on a research practice project to develop an innovative model for the provision of kinship care.

Keynote Speaker: Brian Jeffrey

Bryan Jeffrey has been a mental health clinician for over 15 years, with a range of experiences working with ‘young people in care’ in Scotland and Australia. Working in an industry where some clinicians intentionally avoid providing mental health services for the most complex young people, Bryan has become increasingly passionate about filling that gap. Bryan’s book My Big Brain Book was published to provide education to young people about mental illness, and his mental health training packages help to address the imbalance in mental health education amongst the professionals working with young people in care.

Keynote Speaker: Robyn Moore

For 30 years, Robyn Moore has been changing people’s perception through ‘the power of the word’ as an educator, in advertising, syndicated radio comedy, animation series and now as a speaker at national and international conferences. She is passionate about increasing access to human potential and opening pathways to 100% participation in life through ‘breakthrough’ communication.

Robyn is the National Patron of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an Australia Day Ambassador for the Australia Day Council and is Australia’s most in-demand female speaker. She has a unique relationship with words and weaves together humour, powerful stories and life-altering distinctions to create an experiential presentation which, she promises, will create greater access to ‘well-being’, resilience, passion, service, leadership, balance, results and satisfaction for participants … both professionally and personally. Robyn promises this will be no ‘ordinary’ presentation.

Keynote Speaker: Dr Marilyn McHugh

Marilyn’s research interests include sole parent families, child support, child protection, children’s services, foster care, costs of foster caring and budget standards.

Teaching

- HDR Supervision: Child protection, children’s services, foster care costs and kinship care. Marilyn McHugh is currently co-supervising Timothy Broady with Professor Katz.

Publications (Recent Books and Journal Articles)

- McHugh, M. (2008), ‘Updating the foster care estimates’, ACWA Newsletter, October/November, 4-5
Keynote Speaker: Jill Wain
Ms Jill Wain, Manager of a Foster Care program in Melbourne, Australia and is a foster parent, adoptive parent and permanent carer.

She is employed by the Salvation Army in the role of manager of a Foster Care program and has also been a caregiver for 34 years. She has a great passion and commitment to birth families and children in care and works tirelessly in trying to maintain connections for children and their families with the hope that this will benefit and strengthen the understanding of the importance contact plays in the lives of children in care.

Keynote Speaker: Paul Mason
Paul Mason was appointed Commissioner for Children for Tasmania in 2007. The Commissioner is a Crown appointment independent of the government of the day, responsible for advising government about all matters concerning the health, welfare, development and education of children and their protection from all forms of abuse and neglect. His other primary role is raising public awareness about these matters. Before that he had three decades of experience both as a solicitor and barrister in all areas of family law including complex parenting and child protection cases across Australia. He is deeply committed to the human rights of children and a strong believer in their capacity to make a valuable contribution to all decisions affecting their welfare and development.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

Registration and ‘Meet and Greet’
Date: 27 August 2010
Time: 1700-1930
Venue: Wrest Point Hotel
Dress: Neat casual

Welcome to the Conference! The ‘Meet and Greet’ is an ideal opportunity to catch up with your interstate colleagues and exhibitors and to meet delegates who are attending the conference for the first time.

Conference Dinner
Date: 28 August 2010
Time: 1900 – midnight
Venue: Wrest Point Hotel
Cost: Inclusive of full registrations.
$22 for additional pre dinner drinks tickets
$55 for additional dinner tickets
(alcohol is not included)

Dress: Neat casual

Join the celebrations at the Conference Dinner which will be a great night celebrating all our achievements.
WORKSHOPS

Workshop 1
Saturday 28 August 2010  1105-1155

(a)  Children’s visitors
    Colleen Moran-Ford, Commissioner for
    Children’s office

(b)  Looking after vulnerable and traumatised children:
    Healing relationships and how they impact on
    children and carers
    Noel MacNamara, Manager of Therapeutic Care at
    the Australian Childhood Foundation

(c)  Trauma and post traumatic stress disorder.
    It must be there?
    This workshop will help you understand the basic
    mechanism of trauma
    Bryan Jeffrey, MOAT Mental Health

(d)  Working with challenging behaviours:
    Why punishment doesn’t work – alternatives
    to the use of punishment
    Coral Cole and Kristen Webb, Department of Child,
    Youth and Family Services Tasmania

(e)  National Standards for OoHC
    Dianne Caney and Rosie Crumpton-Crook,
    Department of child, youth and family Services
    Tasmania

Workshop 2
Saturday 28 August 2010  1155-1245

(a)  What’s the plan
    This workshop will explore the potential barriers that
    impede young people accessing a leaving care plan
    Jacqui Reed, CREATE

(b)  W.A. Respite Program
    Western Australian Department for Child Protection
    has developed a Respite Care Program, which aims
    to meet the needs of children, Kinship Carers and
    Foster Carers.
    Brenda Yelland, Western Australian Department for
    Child Protection

(c)  Innovation and sexuality education – activities and
    resources for supporting children and young people
    in care (pt 1)
    Georgina Livingston and Holly Brennan

(d)  Identifying and understanding abuse
    Barbara Biggs, Author journalist and child protection
    campaigner

(e)  Parental perceptions of the barriers and enablers
    to carrying out ‘developmental home therapy’
    Kathryn Shutt, Physiotherapist working within
    Queensland Health with children with developmental
    delays and their families

Workshop 3
Saturday 28 August 2010  1415-1500

(a)  Developing a Carers Tool Box: Developing emotional
    intelligence; Understanding developmental trauma;
    creating a 'Safe Place' for both child and carer
    Berry Dunston, Registered Clinical Counsellor
    Psychotherapist

(b)  Multi systemic therapy
    Justine Harris, Life Without Barriers

(c)  Kinship care: Where does it belong? Is it family
    support or is it placement support or maybe
    something in between?
    Tricia Sheahan and Frances Klaassen,
    Mercy Family Services

(d)  Valuing the skills & knowledge and experience of
    carers by employing caregivers to assist with publicity,
    recruitment, support and retention of caregivers in
    home based care
    Gail Walton, co presenters Sara Elzo
    and Jeanette Hutchings

(e)  Trauma and post traumatic stress disorder: It must be there?
    Bryan Jeffrey, MOAT Mental Health

Workshop 4
Sunday 29 August  0900-0950

(a)  Looking after vulnerable and traumatised children:
    Healing relationships and how they impact on
    children and carers
    Noel MacNamara, Manager of Therapeutic Care,
    Australian Childhood Foundation

(b)  Providing accredited training to foster & kinship carers
    Dianne Mathieson

(c)  Supporting Aboriginal children to connect to country
    Annette Sax, Director of Yarn Strong Sista

(d)  The Circle Program: A therapeutic approach to foster
    care-building connections
    Sharee Donegan, co presenters Mel Tillack
    and Cate Titulear

(e)  Innovation and sexuality education – activities and
    resources for supporting children and young people
    in care (pt 2)
    Georgina Livingston and Holly Brennan,
    Family Planning Queensland
# Program Overview

## Friday 27 August 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1600-1900</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>1700-1930</td>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
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## Saturday 28 August 2010

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<tr>
<td>0800</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>0845–0855</td>
<td>Conference Opening</td>
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<td>Welcome to Country</td>
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<td>0905–0915</td>
<td>Choir</td>
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<td>0915–0930</td>
<td>Lord Mayor Rob Valentine</td>
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<td>0930–0945</td>
<td>Minister for Human Services</td>
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<td>0945–1000</td>
<td>Director DCYFS Mark Byrne</td>
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<td>1000–1045</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker: Robyn Moore</td>
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<td>1045–1105</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
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<td>1105–1155</td>
<td><strong>Workshop 1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1A</strong> Children’s visitors Colleen Moran-Ford</td>
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<td><strong>1B</strong> Looking after vulnerable and traumatised children: Healing</td>
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<td><strong>1E</strong> National standards for OoHC</td>
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<td><strong>Dianne Caney, Rosie Crompton-Crook</strong></td>
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<td>1155–1245</td>
<td><strong>Workshop 2</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2A</strong> What’s the plan? Jacqui Reed</td>
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<td><strong>2B</strong> W.A. Respite Program Brenda Yelland</td>
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<td><strong>2C</strong> Innovation and sexuality education – Activities and resources</td>
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<td><strong>2D</strong> Identifying and understanding abuse</td>
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<td><strong>Barbara Biggs</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2E</strong> Parental perceptions of the barriers and enablers to carrying</td>
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<td><strong>Kathryn Shutt</strong></td>
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<td>1245–1325</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1325–1415</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker: Brian Jeffrey</td>
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### Workshop 3

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<th>1415–1500</th>
<th><strong>Workshop 3</strong></th>
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<td><strong>3A</strong></td>
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<td>Developing a Carers Tool Box: Developing emotional intelligence</td>
<td>Multi systemic therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berry Dunston</td>
<td>Justine Harris</td>
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| 1500–1515 | Afternoon Tea |
| 1515–1530 | Commissioner for Children Paul Mason |
| 1530–1615 | Robyn Moore Workshop |
| 1615      | Conference Close |
| 1830–1930 | Pre-Dinner Drinks/Seating |
| 1900      | Conference Dinner, Carer Awards The Derwent Room, Wrest Point |

### Sunday 29 August 2010

| 0800 | Registration |
| 0900–0950 | **Workshop 4** |
| **4A** | **4B** | **4C** | **4D** | **4E** |
| Looking after vulnerable and traumatised children: Healing relationships and how they impact on children and carers | Providing accredited training to foster & kinship carers | Supporting Aboriginal children to connect to country | The Circle Program: A therapeutic approach to foster care – building connections | Innovation and sexuality education – activities and resources for supporting children and young people in care (pt 2) |
| Noel MacNamara | Dianne Mathieson | Annette Sax | Sharee Donegan, Mel Tillack, Cate Titulear | Georgina Livingston, Holly Brennan |

| 0950-1020 | Keynote Speaker: Dr Marilyn McHugh |
| 1020-1035 | Silent Auction Results |
| 1035 -1100 | Morning Tea |
| 1100-1145 | Keynote Speaker: Jill Wain |
| 1145-1215 | Aboriginal Dance Group |
| 1215-1230 | Hand-over of Conference to Queensland |
| 1230      | Close of Conference and Lunch |
REGISTRATION FEES

Registrations received before 14 June 2010
Full Registration – Early National Delegate $200
Full Registration – Early State Delegate $125
Full Registration – Early Professional $340

Registrations received after 14 June 2010
Full Registration – Standard National Delegate $240
Full Registration – Standard State Delegate $165
Full Registration – Standard Professional $340
Day Registration – State Delegate $75

Registration Entitlements
The full registration fee includes:
• All sessions
• Conference Dinner
• Daily catering
• Satchel
• Program book

The day registration fee includes:
• Sessions on one day
• Daily catering
• Satchel
• Program book

Payments
All payments must be received prior to the Conference. If payment from your organisation is not received prior to the Conference you will be asked to provide your personal credit card details to guarantee payment. This card will be debited if alternative payment is not received within 14 days. All accommodation accounts must be settled on checkout.

Tax Invoice and GST
A tax invoice will be emailed once your registration has been confirmed. All prices are quoted in Australian dollars (AUD$) and include GST.

Cancellation Policy
Cancellations notified in writing by 14 July 2010 will be eligible for a refund less $150. Cancellations notified after this date will not be eligible for a refund but another person may attend the Conference.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotels and Rates
All rates are per room, per night and do not include breakfast unless otherwise specified. Please contact the accommodation venues directly to book your stay.

Wrest Point Hotel Convention Centre
(Conference venue)
Conference rate from $114 per room per night
Book directly with Wrest Point on (03) 6225 7001 and quote reference: 29744

Wrest Point Hotel Casino provides a variety of restaurants, cafes and lounge bars throughout the complex. There is also a gym, heated indoor swimming pool, sauna, masseuse, broadband access, tennis court, mini golf and parking.

Woolmers Inn
Conference rate from $99.00 per room per night
Book directly with Woolmers Inn on (03) 6223 7355

Amberley House (opposite Casino)
4 person apartment $270.00 per night including breakfast
Book directly with Amberley House on (03) 6225 1005

Grosvenor Court
Studio 1-2 people $119.00 per room per night
Book directly with Grosvenor Court on (03) 6223 3422
PRE AND POST CONFERENCE TOURING AND EVENTS

TasVacations can arrange individual pre-conference and post-conference travelling options for you to see Tasmania’s highlights.
P: 1800 030 160 (Australia)
P: +61 3 6234 4666 (International)
F: 03 6234 4332
E: holidays@tasvacations.com.au
www.tasvacations.com

Activities
Events Tasmania will be able to provide information on activities during August for those carers wishing to spend some time touring local areas www.eventstasmania.com

Transport:
• Wrest Point Hotel will arrange a hire car for delegates on request
• FCAT will provide limited free transport (pre-booked)
• Airport Transfers: The $10 ten buck bus runs from the airport to city hotels. Contact them to book and advise your flight arrival times. The bus departs from the middle lane right outside the terminal.
  Contact: Wendy E: airporttas@bigpond.com
  M: 0419 382 240
• Taxis are available at Wrest Point Hotel
• Metro Buses perform a regular service from Wrest Point to the CBD

Child Care
Interstate Foster Carers please make contact with conference organisers as soon as possible with your requirements for this service as places will be limited.
E: confsec@fcatas.org.au
M: 0437006876

Airlines
As the airlines are regularly changing and updating schedules we recommend you check each airline’s website for the best prices and most convenient flights.
www.qantas.com.au
www.jetstar.com.au
www.virginblue.com.au
www.tigerairways.com.au

Hire Cars
www.budget.com.au
www.hertz.com.au
www.thrifty.com.au
www.europcar.com.au

Spirit of Tasmania Ferries
The Spirit of Tasmania ferries sail between Melbourne and Devonport. Devonport is located in Northern Tasmania, approximately one hour from Launceston and three hours from Hobart. In summer the ferry has day and night sailings and takes approximately 10 hours. Check the website for more details.
www.spiritoftasmania.com.au

For more information please refer to AFKCP national website www.afkcp.org.au
Workshops

Number your preferred sessions for each workshop 1-5. The organising committee will endeavour to allocate participants to their first choice wherever possible.

Workshop 1 – Saturday 28 August 2010 1105-1155
   (a) Children’s visitors
   (b) Looking after vulnerable and traumatised children
   (c) Trauma and post traumatic stress disorder
   (d) Working with challenging behaviours
   (e) National standards for OoHC

Workshop 2 – Saturday 28 August 2010 1155-1245
   (a) What’s the plan
   (b) W.A. Respite Program
   (c) Innovation and sexuality education – Activities (pt 1)
   (d) Identifying and understanding Abuse
   (e) Parental perceptions of the barriers

Workshop 3 – Saturday 28 August 2010 1415-1500
   (a) Developing a Carers Tool Box
   (b) Multi systemic therapy
   (c) Kinship care: Where does it belong?
   (d) Valuing the skills, knowledge & experience of carers
   (e) Trauma and post traumatic stress disorder

Workshop 4 – Sunday 29 August 0900-0950
   a) Looking after vulnerable and traumatised children
   b) Providing accredited training
   c) Supporting Aboriginal children to connect to country
   d) The Circle Program
   e) Innovation and sexuality education – Activities (pt 2)

Social Functions

Please indicate if you wish to attend the following functions.

Conference Dinner Saturday 28 August 2010
   Full Registrants inclusive  Yes □ No □
   Additional tickets ______ x $55  Total $ _________
   (Alcohol not included, food only)
   Pre-dinner drinks
   Additional tickets ______ x $22  Total $ _________
Payment Summary

A $50 processing fee will apply to payments received after the conference. If applicable, you are responsible for ensuring payment is made by your organisation. A tax invoice/confirmation will be sent to you.

Registrations: $ ________________
Social Functions: $ ________________
Total: $ ________________

Payment Options

☐ Cheque (made payable to Conference Design)
☐ Credit Card

Card Type: Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐

Card Holder: ________________________________
Card Number: ________________________________
Expiry Date: ________________________________
Signature: ________________________________

☐ EFT

Date: ________________________________
Reference: ________________________________

BSB: 017 324    Account #: 1085 82575
Account Name: Conference Design
Bank: ANZ, Sandy Bay Branch
Swift Code: ANZBAU3M

Send the completed form to:
Conference Design Pty Ltd
228 Liverpool Street Hobart TAS 7000
t 03 6231 2999
f 03 6231 1522
e info@cdesign.com.au
APPLICATION FOR FOSTER CARER NATIONAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

All current, relative, kin and foster carers, are eligible for this Award

You can apply if you:

• Have 10 or more years active service in total as a foster, relative or kinship carer (shorter periods added up count towards the 10yrs).
• Are a person of good character.
• Fully complete both sides of this application form and supply all requested information.
• Submit your application by 30 June 2010 for recognition at the 2010 National Foster Care Conference. All applications received after this date will be held over for presentation at the next national conference.

1 Details of applicant or person nominated *****nominee agreement to nomination is essential

Ms/Mrs/Miss/Mr/other  First Name  Last name

Address     Daytime Contact No.

     After Hours Contact

     Email

Type of care provided (circle) Short-term/ Long-term/ Regular Respite/ Crisis or Emergency/Other

Total time as foster carer:  yrs     months

Please attach separate sheet if necessary using the following format and headings

Crisis/emergency or Other Care (list month and year)

From to No of children Agency/Department

From to No of children Agency/Department

Short-term/ Long-term/ Regular Respite (list month and year)

From to No of children Agency/Department

From to No of children Agency/Department

Have any of the children you have cared for had a disability or severe behavioral problems, or a medical condition?  Yes / No

Please list a referee (someone who has known the nominee over the years of their foster caring role and can comment/confirm many of the above facts and comment on the nominee’s style of caring.)

Name  Contact Details

• I, __(nominee) accept the above nomination and give my permission for the agency listed overleaf to complete the agency declaration.

Signature of nominee  Date ___/___/___

ENSURE YOU COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THE APPLICATION
2. Details of person nominating (self-nomination accepted)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position/Title</th>
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<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Relationship to person nominated</th>
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Signature of person nominating: ____________________________ Date: ______/_____/______

3. Current or last associated agency to complete

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<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Person completing section</th>
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<th>Position /Title</th>
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I certify on behalf of the above agency that (name) __________________________ is a current (circle) carer

[] a current police check has been done: Date of check: ______/_____/______ State: ______

[] if the person is a registered carer.

[] the applicants record of caring attached to this application is current to the best of my knowledge.

[] no standard of care, abuse or neglect issues was substantiated while the applicant was caring.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ______/_____/______

***PLEASE ATTACH ANY FURTHER INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION A LIMIT OF 150 WORDS Stating type of care provided ie:- caring for special needs children, challenging behaviours, children with on going medical conditions***

Information on this form is collected in order to determine eligibility for receiving a Foster Care National Recognition award. The information collected may be passed to the selection panel and to the person who you have nominated. The information collected may be used to contact you to gain further information and may also be used for promotional and publicity purposes. In other instances, the information collected can be disclosed without your consent where authorized or required by law.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS LODGING APPLICATION FORMS PRIOR TO 30TH JUNE 2010 WILL BE PRESENTED WITH THEIR AWARDS AT THE 2010 NATIONAL FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE DINNER ON SATURDAY 28TH AUGUST 2010 IN HOBART TASMANIA

Those not attending the conference will receive their awards either by post or through their State Associations after the conference.

Applications received after the 30th June 2010 will be passed on to next committee.