



INALA  
COMMUNITY HOUSE

Out Of  
Home Care



# Your Carers Newsletter

## Departmental Updates

Amendments have been passed to the "Child Protection Act 1999" that will reinforce children's rights; strengthen children's voices in decisions that affect them; improve how Child Safety works with First Nations children and families; and streamline, clarify and improve the regulation of care.

These changes come into effect on 21 May 2023



## Team Updates: Meet Janel

We wanted to take the time to introduce our team member and awesome work colleague Janel. Janel has been working at OHC since 2020 and says that she enjoys working with carers and children.

We truly appreciate you Janel and look forward to your ongoing contribution to the foster care system

We asked her a few questions below!

### What do you wish people knew about your role?

People who are involved in the child's life all want what's best for the child, and we can achieve this by working together.

### What helps you get through the tough days?

Laughing with colleagues and spending time with my family.

### What is something interesting about yourself?

I went skydiving in April 2023 for my birthday. It was so much fun and scary! I would do it again



# Your Carer Newsletter

## Carer Spotlight



This month we are excited to introduce you to another wonderful carer, Toni! Toni has been a carer for 24 years, beginning in respite care before moving into a primary carer role on a full time basis. Foster care has been an important part of Toni's life with her mother foster caring throughout childhood. Toni says "I saw how she changed children's lives with love and support, which inspired me to become a carer. I love being a carer because I can give children a safe and loving home".

It is incredible that some of the children that Toni cared for are now grown up and have families of their own. Toni has created such a special bond with all of the children she has cared for. We are so honoured to get to work with incredible people like Toni.

## Feedback & Complaints



Our community of carers is so important and we want to ensure you have the opportunity to share any feedback or concerns you may have. You can give feedback in several ways.

- Call and speak to a member of our team on **(07) 3372 1711**
- Submit your feedback via email at [reception@ich.org.au](mailto:reception@ich.org.au) or [complaints@ich.org.au](mailto:complaints@ich.org.au)
- Send through written feedback to PO BOX 4800, Forest Lake QLD 4078

## Upcoming Training & Events

This month our friends at FIS will be running a circus workshop for those over 12 years and over - please speak to your case worker about registering for this and see details below.

We also have Kerris's morning tea tomorrow morning at her house as per the flyer below - Looking forward to seeing you there.

We will be holding some pre-service training for new carers in June 2023 and we are currently planning a carer support group in partnership with the "Family Inclusion Network". More details to follow about this.

In September, we are also planning first aid training for carers - more details to be released as we get closer to September.

## Carer Compliance

All carers need to complete "Hope and Healing" Training through PeakCare - Can you please speak with your case worker if you have not yet done this training and we will make sure that you are registered for the training.

## Good News O'Clock



*Foster carers change the world one little heart at a time"*

**We truly believe this at ICH and want to support you to do this!**



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# Your Carers Newsletter

## Partners in Care

In April 2023, we partnered with a group of carers, Forest Lake and Inala CSSC for our first Partners in Care meeting for 2023. We asked for feedback and the following suggestions were provided:

- Regular carer catch-ups for carer support and networking opportunities
- Specific training needs: First aid, trauma, permanency and legislative changes
- Meetups with Child Safety staff to discuss "a day in a life of a carer/CSO"
- Ongoing newsletters from Child Safety and ICH
- Stability and consistency in foster care support workers/CSOs where possible.

**If you'd like to be a part of this meeting or have any ideas, please email the Forest Lake CSSC manager Elly Scott at [elleanor.scott@cyjma.qld.gov.au](mailto:elleanor.scott@cyjma.qld.gov.au) or OHC manager Zane at [zane.roa@ich.org.au](mailto:zane.roa@ich.org.au)**

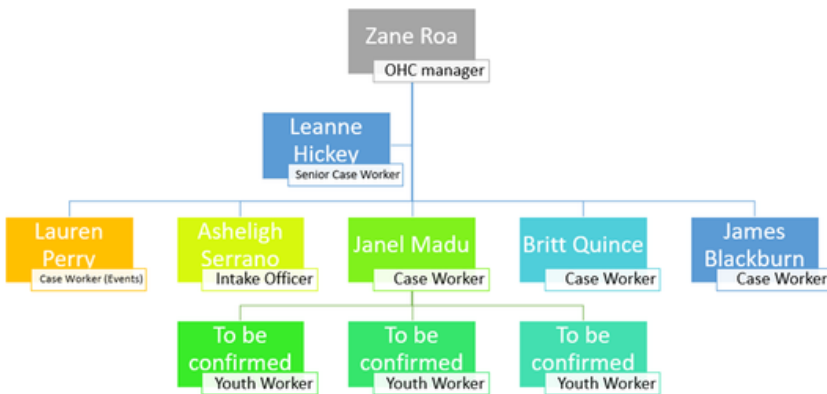


## Team Structure

Our team is expanding, and you can see from the structure (below) that we are still recruiting some new staff for the team. We will work with the team to ensure that any transitions are smooth between case workers.

Ashleigh will also be our primary intake officer. Any discussions regarding intake and processing new carers through the organisation will be managed by Ashleigh! Thanks Ash!

Lauren will be managing our carer events calendar moving forward. Thanks Lauren!



## Carers Morning Tea

Thank you so much to the carers that were able to attend our morning tea hosted at Blue Fin earlier this month! It was so great to spend time with you and eat some yummy food! We can't wait for the next catch up.

