

Core Elements for Child Placement

for Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander People

Prevention

Protecting children's rights to grow up in family, community and culture by supporting families to care safely for their childrent.

Partnership

Ensuring the participation of community representatives in service design, delivery and individual case decisions.

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Connection

Maintaining and supporting connections to family, community, culture and country for children in out-of-home care.

Placement

Placing children in out-of-home care in accordance with the established ATSICPP placement hierarchy.

Participation

Ensuring the participation of children, parents and family members in decisions regarding the safety belonging and wellbeing of their children.



**FOSTER+
KINSHIP CARE**
GRAICCHS

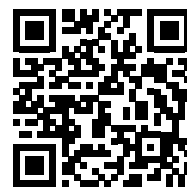


Interested in becoming a carer?

Scan this QR code to complete our online form. Alternatively, you can visit our office in person or reach out to our friendly staff at 1800 293 293 (*Option 3 for Foster & Kinship Care*).



Feedback Your feedback matters so let us know how we're doing to make our services even better, complete our GRAICCHS Feedback Form (QR code) or talk to our friendly staff on 1800 293 293 (*Option 3 for Foster & Kinship Care*).



Complaints You can make a complaint about any aspect of the services using the GRAICCHS Feedback Form (linked above) or contact the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety by scanning this QR code.



Gladstone Region Aboriginal and Islander
Community Controlled Health Service Ltd

Gladstone & Biloela Region

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1800 293 293

After Hours **0461 401 717**

Email: fosterandkinship@nhulundu.com.au

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Preserving connections to
culture, community and country



Gladstone Region Aboriginal and Islander Community Controlled Health Service Ltd



What is Foster & Kinship Care?

Foster care is a way of providing a secure and safe family life for children who cannot live at home. GRAICCHS Foster and Kinship Care Service (FKC) aids First Nations families and children, fostering strong ties to family, community, culture, and country.

Foster carers accommodate children of varying ages, cultures, and religions, providing care for a few nights, months, or even years, depending on the child's situation and the carer's ability.

Who can be a FKC carer?

Anyone above 18 years can become a carer. We require a diverse range of carers - male, female, single, married, working, stay-at-home, with or without children, or identifying as LGBTQI+.

This diversity helps us match the needs of children requiring care.

Types of care & carers

A **Kinship Carer** is a person or persons approved by Child Safety to be either

- related to the child,
- considered family within the child's community,
- or a person of significance to the child.

First Nations Kinship Care may also extend to another First Nations person from, or compatible with, the child's community or language group.

A **Foster Carer** is a person or persons also approved by Child Safety, offer care to children in their own homes.

Foster and Kinship Carers can choose their commitment level based on their family situation, including options for short-term, long-term, emergency, or respite care.



“Preserving connections to Culture, Community and Country”

How do I become a carer?

There are a number of steps to becoming a Foster or Kinship carer. An application, assessment and some training will be required before you are approved by Child Safety as a carer.

These steps assess your ability and capacity to provide care for children and young people. Many things are considered during the assessment including your family situation, the people living in your home, person history checks, and the reasons of wanting to become a carer.

Additionally, a household safety study and criminal history checks will be required, and you and your adult household members will need Blue Cards.

How are carers supported?

GRAICCHS Foster and Kinship Care Service ensures carers receive comprehensive support during placement, Care Plan implementation, and in addressing the emotional and behavioral needs

of First Nations children in their care. Support includes:

- Continuous training and information
- Regular visits from dedicated workers
- Carer support groups
- After-hours on-call support

Carers receive a fortnightly allowance for child-related expenses like food, clothing, and entertainment. Additional allowances may be available for children with high or complex needs. Respite carers receive proportional allowances based on care duration.

Carers may qualify for Commonwealth Government benefits, including Family Tax Benefits Part A and B, Child Care Subsidy, Parental Leave Pay, or Parenting Payment. For more details, contact Centrelink at 13 61 50 or visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au.