

Building Caring Communities 2025

Bringing evidence, research and practice together to create a community where every child can thrive.

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre
Meanjin (Brisbane)
June 10-12, 2025

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Building Caring Communities 2025 is co-hosted by:

LIFE
WITHOUT
BARRIERS



ALLAMBI CARE



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2025

Welcome and Reception

5:00pm - 7:00pm
(Sky Room and Sky Lobby)

Traditional Welcome to Country

Nunukul Yuggera Community

Welcome to the Conference



Poster Session

(Sky Room and Sky Lobby)

#5 Creating Sexual safety through collaboration
Melinda Clarke LWB

#12 Continuous Practice Development - An innovative tool to measure impact
Kylie Williams & Cassandra O'Regan, OzChild

#15 Wellbeing strategies in active lessons: Morning Move for Mind - what mechanisms make it work
Tracy Higgins, Inspira

#21 Putting analytics into Foster Carer Recruitment
Laura Peachey, OzChild

#26 The CARE Model in Spain: implementation process and early results
Jorge del Valle, Spain

#31 Crisis Prevention: The Ecology of Caring and Responsive Classrooms
Fiona Waites

#33 Perceptions of Safety: Understanding Variability Across Staff Characteristics in Residential Child Care Settings
Lisa McCabe & Debbie Sellers RCCP

#34 Quality of Child-Carer Relationships Correlates with Young People's Outcomes in Care
Elliott Smith RCCP

#36 Empirical results of a multi-site evaluation of CARE in the United States
Charlie Izzo, RCCP

#37 Threshold Concepts in the Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI) System: Developing TCI7
Debbie Sellers & Laura Steckley

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WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2025

9:00am - 9:45am	Opening Ben Jones to open conference and introduce Traditional Welcome to Country: Nunukul Yuggera Community					
9:45am - 10:30am	Plenary Keynote Walking Together <i>Brenda Matthews, Co-Founder/Indigenous Director, Learning Circle Australia</i>					
10:30am - 11:00am	Break					
11:00am - 12:30pm	Workshop/Panel/Oral Presentation Session A (Oral) My journey to identifying safety and belonging. Through connection, relationships and communities. <i>Julia Hayes, Social Worker/Children's Author</i>					
11:30am	Cross Agency Youth Advisory Panel Youth Participation Advocates from Allambi, Uniting Care and Life Without Barriers					
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch					
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Workshop/Panel/Oral Presentation: Session A.					
(Workshop) Building a Culture of Learning: Using Data to Inform Child and Family Practice and Systems <i>Mary Ruberti, Dr Lisa McCabe, Dr Elliott G. Smith (RCCP, US)</i>	(Panel) Connecting Lived Experience, Practice, and Policy Through a Child and Youth Empowerment Model <i>(LWB) Youth Participation Advocates, Child and Youth Participation Champions (Life Without Barriers, AUS)</i>	(Workshop) Children and families: Driving Systemic change through co-production <i>Laurence Stanton-Greenwood (Person with lived experience) and Angela Stanton-Greenwood - (The Listening Post, UK)</i>	(Workshop) Covering the Distance: The effective & consistent implementation of TCIS across Western Australia (25.7) <i>Dudley Allitt and Matt Brennan-Jones (School of Alternative Learning Settings, AUS)</i>	(Panel) Building Capacity: Supporting Trainers for Fidelity and Excellence <i>Fiona Waites & International Friends (TACT, International)</i>	(Oral) Implementing CARE in Taiwan - Exploring the Transition from Charity Culture to Practical Transformation <i>Yu Hsu (Chair, Taiwan Residential Child Care Association (Taiwan Residential Child Care Alliance))</i> (Oral) CARE Journey in Taiwan <i>Eli Yishun Lee (Holy Word Children and Youth Foundation)</i>	(Panel) Families will do well if they can. If they can't, we need to figure out why, so we can help: Strengthening family relationships by redesigning family time when children are in out-of-home care. <i>Jessica Cocks and Tracey Ashton, LWB</i>



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2:45pm - 3:30pm	Plenary Keynote Supporting neurodivergent children and young people in Out of Home Care <i>Dr Emma Goodall, Director Strategic Translational Research, Department of Premier and Cabinet, South Australia</i>
3:30pm - 4:00pm	Break
4:00pm - 5:30pm	Plenary Panel and Close Plenary System Change Panel Panel of the Peaks: Championing Change for Children and Families: Strategies for Research-Informed Advocacy and Sector Support <i>Tom Allsop, Chief Executive Officer, PeakCare Q'ld</i> <i>Deb Tsorbaris, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare, Vic</i> <i>Melissa Gibson, Chief Executive Officer, Child and Family Focus SA</i> <i>Simone Czech, Chief Executive Officer, ACWA</i> (Oral) The Home Stretch Reform <i>Paul McDonald, Chair Home Stretch & CEO Anglicare Victoria (AUS)</i>



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THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2025

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8:30am - 9:30am	Plenary Keynote How Do We Know We Are Enough? <i>Dr Junlei Li, Co-Chair, Human Development and Education; Saul Zaentz Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education, Harvard University Graduate School of Education</i>					
9:30am - 10:30am	Plenary Panel In a system that fails them, parents turn to other parents who understand. A panel showcasing parent leadership in child protection policy and practice: presented by parents and their allies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Inclusion Strategies in the Hunter (FISH), New South Wales Family Inclusion Network, Southeast Queensland (an activity of Micah Projects), Queensland Life Without Barriers, South Australia (Oral) Peer Parent and Family Advocacy with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in child protection <i>Karina Maxwell, PhD Candidate UQ</i>					
10:30am - 11:00am	Break					
11:00am - 12:00pm	Workshop/Panel/Oral Presentation Session B					
(Panel) Staff Retention as an Integral Component in Applying Evidence-Based Practice in Residential Care Safe Places (AUS)	(Oral) Dodge, Dip, Duck, Dive and Dodge: The Importance of Physical Play for Trauma-Affected Children <i>Dominic Roth (Uniting Care, AUS)</i> (Workshop) The Importance of Play in Developmental Relationships <i>Dominic Roth (Uniting Care), Brett Wilcock (Uniting Care), Phoebe Kennedy (YAG Youth Consultant), Hannah Ziebarth (YAG Youth Consultant), Andre Anders (Uniting Care), Larnie McDonald (Uniting Care).</i>	(Oral) Therapeutic Crisis Intervention in Schools (TCIS) and Trauma-informed Positive Behaviour Support (TIPBS) in a Curriculum and Re-engagement (CARE) School. A case study. <i>Stella Smith (WA, AUS)</i> (Oral) Brains Built to Break Barriers: Building Inclusive Communities that Celebrate ADHD and ASD Strengths <i>Lisa Betts and Justine Capelle Collis (AUS)</i>	(Oral) Preserving a Vital System: The Future of Foster Care <i>Lisa Griffiths & Jaimie Crosby (Ozchild) & Families Australia</i> (Oral) The Quality Parenting Center (QPC) was created to shift supervised visitation from the State entity to a less restrictive, home-like environment. <i>Emily Thomson - Waterford Country School (US)</i>	(Panel) A CENTRALISED MODEL: The National after Hours Service, Life Without Barriers Panel moderator: Zoe Gilrain Panelists: Elisabeth McDonald, Wendy Hazeldene, Tarsh Stevenson, Mags McGruther (AUS) (Oral) The Community of Practice for Child Safe Specialists (CPCSS) designed a study to explore how children and young people experience participation. <i>Melinda Clarke, LWB and Tracy Hinchcliffe, Uniting NSW</i>	(Oral) Improving the Foster Care Experience: An innovative approach to supporting carers, children and young people (Oral) Empowering futures: Professional Foster Care as a Transformative Alternative to Residential Care (Oral) Evidence based FosterCare: The Journey of Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO) in Australia	(Workshop) Appreciating the Simple and Ordinary Human Interactions. <i>Junlei Li (Harvard University/US)</i>
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch					

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1:00pm - 1:45pm	Plenary Keynote The Transformative Power of Being With <i>Dr Howard Bath, Consultant, Program Director Allambi Care</i>					
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Workshop/Panel/Oral Presentation Session C					
(Workshop) Multisystemic Therapy - partnering with families and communities to create positive outcomes for young people <i>Cheryl Majka, Life Without Barriers (NSW), Jasmine MacLeod, Western Australia CAMHS Specilised (WA), Veena Singh, Western Australia CAMHS Specilised (WA), Kansas Marten, Anglicare Victoria and representative from VicPol, Gizem Tarazi, OzChild (VIC), Christine Kondov, Life Without Barriers (QLD)</i>	(Oral) Theory to Practice: How we made an organizational shift in providing TCI to our organization (Oral) Innovating Tomorrow's Workforce: Human Centered Design and Diversity in Action <i>Samuel Mammen – (Oak Hill Ranch, CAN)</i>	(Panel) Honoring Differences, Strengthening Connections: Australian First Nations' Perspective in Caring for Children and Families <i>First Nations TCI/F Trainers Reference Group</i>	(Workshop) Why school attendance matters, and what you can do to help <i>UTAS.edu/Peter Underwood Centre</i>	(Oral) Moving from evidence based research to practice <i>Bernie Centelo, MST Hawaii</i> (Oral) TCI-F in the early intervention space, supporting families with adolescents that use violence <i>Chantal Dodd (Centacare Northern, AUS)</i>	(Panel) CARE - Cross National Implementation Panel moderator: Martha Holden Panelists: Eli Yishun Lee & Yu Hsu (Taiwan), Stacey Charchuk (Canada), Jorge del Valle (Spain), Emily Thomson & Ashley Barker (US), Courtney Patterson/Brett Wilcock (AU), Angela Stanton-Greenwood (UK/Ireland)	(Oral) From Childhood Institutions to the Aged Care system: A survey of the perspectives of older care leavers accessing aged care supports. <i>Philip Mendes, Lena Turnbull, Sarah Morris and Susan Baidawi (AUS)</i> (Oral) Barriers and facilitators to effective transition planning: perspectives of staff from a community-based organization supporting young people living in out of home care. <i>Philip Mendes, Danielle Newton, Hayley Wainwright, Sofia Grage Moore, & Helen Skouteris (Monash University) (AUS)</i>
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Break					
3:30pm - 5:00pm	Plenary: Multiple Presentations Ted talk type (15 minute presentation with panel Q&A at end) International Perspectives on out of home care, present and future <i>Lisa Holmes (What works, meaningful evidence or cost-effectiveness of residential care?)</i> <i>Jorge del Valle (cross national utilization of residential care and worker qualification)</i> <i>Junlei Li, High Quality Care in Low Resource Settings</i> <i>Tammy, President of the Family Inclusion Strategies in the Hunter</i>					
5:00pm - 5:30pm	Conference Close Closing reflections from a range of participant perspectives					