

More ways to get involved...

Including Children and Young People in Decision Making

The 'Embedding the Charter in Practice' project is an outcome of the Including Children and Young People in Decision Making Reference Group, convened by DHS. This Group is part of the broader sector commitment to ensuring that the voices of children & young people in care are heard and included in decision-making across many levels.

Listen to me!!!



The role of the Reference Group is to contribute to the development and implementation of the including children in decision making policy and assist the Department in fulfilling its responsibility to publish and promote the *Charter for Children in Out of Home Care*.

If you and/or your agency are interested in participating in the Committee please contact Judith Rose at DHS
Judith.rose@dhs.vic.gov.au



Contact us:

Cazz Wingrave
CREATE Project Manager
Ph: (03) 9918 0002
Email: cazz@create.org.au
325-327 Queensberry St
North Melbourne
VIC 3051



Lauren Oliver
Internal Consultant—Youth
Empowerment & Participation
Ph: (03) 9429 9266
Email: loliver@berrystreet.org.au
1 Salisbury St
Richmond
VIC 3121



Judith Rose
Senior Program & Policy Advisor
Placement & Support Unit
Child Protection
Department of Human Services
Ph: (03) 9096 7478
Email: Judith.rose@dhs.vic.gov.au
Level 9/50 Lonsdale St
Melbourne VIC 3000



Embedding the Charter in Practice

*A partnership project In
association with the
Department of Human Services*



THIS CHARTER HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR CHILDREN WHO CAN'T

WITH YOU WHEN YOU ARE IN CARE... IT LISTS WHAT YOU

LIVE WITH THEIR PARENTS... IT LISTS WHAT YOU

What?

The 'Embedding the Charter in Practice' project aims to develop tools and resources for children and young people in care, CSO and Child Protection workers, carers and agencies. The tools and resources will support everyone to discuss, address and integrate the principles behind the Charter for Children in Out of Home Care into their every-day work.

In 2007 the Charter for Children in Out of Home Care was launched. Since then young people, agencies and workers have done their best to bring it to life... This project is about supporting that energy and drive.



Why?

Because this is hugely important! The Charter was developed by young people in care and outlines the things they need in order to feel truly supported and cared for.

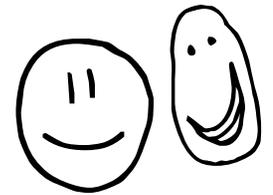
When the Charter was launched one of the concerns voiced by young people was that this would just be another poster on the wall. This project is about bringing the Charter to life, making it real and basing our best practice on the needs we know exist.



Who?

CREATE Foundation and Berry Street, in consultation with VACCA, will be working to develop the resources. This is a sector-wide project which means we will be consulting widely with staff, carers and Child Protection workers from across the state. Extensive consultation has already been carried out with children and young people

The end-products are intended for use by anyone and everyone working with children and young people in Out of Home Care in Victoria—we will need your help to make that possible!



When?

The project commenced in July 2009. Consultation with the broader sector will take place across August and products and resources are expected to be ready for the pilot phase by mid-to-late September.



So, how can you be involved?

There are various ways that you can get involved with this project and/or with similar initiatives.

Inter-Agency Reference Group

The outcomes of this project are intended to benefit the OoHC sector, statewide. To do this we need broad agency and Child Protection representation on the Reference Group.

Consultation Forums

Agencies will be asked to nominate staff and carers to participate in consultation forums. These forums will gather information on good practice initiatives taking place in CSOs and look at where gaps lie in terms of resources to support the integration of the Charter in practice.

Pilot Project

A handful of agencies will be invited to participate in the three-month pilot of the resources that are developed. These are expected to include activities, procedure templates and guidelines.

If you are interested in having your agency represented in any of these activities, or you are specifically interested in being involved yourself, please contact Lauren Oliver: loliver@berrystreet.org.au



CAN EXPECT FROM ALL THE PEOPLE WHO LOOK AFTER YOU AND WORK