

Supporting Families with Children in Care

Mission

To have a child protection system that is respectful and inclusive of parents, family and community as key stakeholders.

Values:

- **Inclusion:** Families of origin are a key stakeholder in the child protection process
- **Equity & Justice:** Parents have rights to timely, accurate information, legal and other support during their time working with the child protection system.
- **Transparency:** honest and open communication enhances all relationships
- **Diversity:** we respect people's culture, age, abilities, sexuality, beliefs and life choices;
- **Independence:** regardless of funding source, our commitment remains focused on advocating for the rights of *(and supporting)* parents and families;
- **Partnership:** Working collaboratively and in partnership will achieve better results than working independently

Principles:

- Families are the experts of their own lives;
- Families are central as the agents of change in their lives;
- Families are to be encouraged and inspired to find solutions for their family;
- Children may be separated from their family however they are intrinsically connected for life;
- Families need to be included as equal partners in the assessment and decision making;
- Dignity and hope needs to remain central to inspire families;
- All stakeholders in the child protection process ought to be treated with dignity, respect, inclusion and honesty.

Supporting Families with Children in Care

Objectives:

- Objective 1: Empower parents and families to participate meaningfully in the child protection system

Strategies:

- a. Provide direct service delivery to parents and family members targeting earlier intervention
- b. Build and develop a network of volunteers and peer mentors to enhance services

- Objective 2: Foster a collaborative and inclusive child protection system

Strategies:

- a. Parent representation in appropriate forums
- b. Promote system reform
- c. Raise the profile of parents' experience when children are removed from their care
- d. Explore and develop ways of working to increase reach and impact; explore and develop meaningful working relationships with the Aboriginal community

Supporting Families with Children in Care

- Objective 3: Enhance the valuable role and intrinsic value of parents and families within the child protection system

Strategies:

- a. Promote the Fin WA mission, objectives and activities to parents, families and the wider community.
-
- Objective 4: Develop and sustain a viable, effective organisation based on best practice

Strategies:

- a. Access funding necessary to meet strategic objectives of the organisation
 - b. Maintain Fin WA affiliation with other FIN associations in Australia and advance the aims of FIN A
 - c. Build a positive media relationship and profile
 - d. Seek to participate in or create opportunities for research and service evaluation
 - e. Develop a culturally competent organisation and service delivery for Aboriginal people
-