

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)

#1 Creating Sexual safety through collaboration

Melinda Clarke, *Life Without Barriers* (AUS)

#2 Continuous Practice Development - An innovative tool to measure impact

Kylie Williams & Cassandra O'Regan, *OzChild* (AUS)

#3 Wellbeing strategies in active lessons: Morning Move for Mind - what mechanisms make it work

Tracey Higgins, *Inspiro* (AUS)

#4 Putting analytics into Foster Carer Recruitment

Laura Peachey, *OzChild* (AUS)

#5 The CARE Model in Spain: implementation process and early results

Dr Jorge de Valle, *University of Oviedo* (Spain)

#6 Crisis Prevention: The Ecology of Caring and Responsive Classrooms

Fiona Waites, *TACT Training & Consulting* (AUS)

#7 Perceptions of Safety: Understanding Variability Across Staff Characteristics in Residential Child Care Settings

Lisa McCabe & Debbie Sellers *RCCP* (US)

#8 Quality of Child-Carer Relationships Correlates with Young People's Outcomes in Care

Elliott Smith, *RCCP* (US)

#9 Empirical results of a multi-site evaluation of CARE in the United States

Charlie Izzo, *RCCP* (US)

#10 Threshold Concepts in the Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI) System: Developing TCI7

Debbie Sellers & Laura Steckley, *RCCP* (US)

Building Caring Communities 2025

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2025



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|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 8:15am - 9:00am | Registration | | | | | |
| 9:00am - 9:45am | Opening Traditional Welcome to Country: Nunukul Yuggera Community | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 9:45am - 10:30am | Plenary Keynote Walking Together <i>Brenda Matthews, Co-Founder/Indigenous Director, Learning Circle Australia (AUS)</i> | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 10:30am - 11:00am | Break | | | | | |
| 11:00am | My Journey to Identifying Safety and Belonging: Through Connection, Relationships, and Communities <i>Julia Hayes Social Worker/Children's Author (AUS)</i> | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 11:30am | Cross Agency Youth Advisory Panel Youth Participation Advocates from Allambi, UnitingCare and Life Without Barriers | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 12:30pm - 1:30pm | Lunch | | | | | |
| 1:30pm - 2:30pm | Workshop/Panel/Oral Presentation Session A | | | | | |
| P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | Plaza Terrace A | Plaza Terrace B |
| (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> | (Panel) Building Capacity: Supporting Trainers for Fidelity and Excellence <i>Panel moderator: Fiona Waites (AUS)</i> <i>Panelists: Stephanie Dyer (US), Ngawai Love, Cassandra Holt & Peter LeBreton (AUS)</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>Holly Schnaars (Parent With Lived Experience)</i> <i>Rachael Dean (Life Without Barriers Peer Worker and Lived Experience Advocate), Julie Wood, Jessica Cocks and Tracey Ashton, Life Without Barriers (AUS)</i> | (Oral) Implementing CARE in Taiwan - Exploring the Transition from Charity Culture to Practical Transformation <i>Yu Hsu, National Chi Nan University; Taiwan Residential Child Care Alliance (Taiwan)</i> (Oral) CARE Journey in Taiwan <i>Eli Yhsun Lee, Holy Word Children and Youth Foundation (Taiwan)</i> | (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> | (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) Courage in Action: Creating Caring Education Communities for Youth-at-Risk to Thrive <i>Dudley Allitt and Matt Brennan-Jones, School of Alternative Learning Settings (AUS)</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 (AUS)</i> | Plaza Terrace |
| 3:30pm - 4:00pm | Break | |
| 4:00pm - 5:30pm | Plenary Panel and Close Plenary System Change Panel | Plaza Terrace |
| 4:00pm | Panel of the Peaks: Championing Change for Children and Families: Strategies for Research-Informed Advocacy and Sector Support Panel moderator: Jamie Crosby, Chief Executive Officer, Families Australia (AUS) Tom Allsop, Chief Executive Officer, PeakCare Queensland (AUS) Deb Tsorbaris, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare (AUS) Melissa Gibson, Chief Executive Officer, Child and Family Focus SA (AUS) Simone Czech, Chief Executive Officer, ACWA (AUS) | |
| 5:00pm | (Oral) The Home Stretch Reform <i>Paul McDonald, Chair Home Stretch & CEO Anglicare Victoria (AUS)</i> | |



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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 (US)</i> | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 9:30am | 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 | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 10:10am | Peer Parent and Family Advocacy with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in child protection <i>Karina Maxwell, PhD Candidate, University of Queensland (AUS)</i> | | | | | |
| 10:30am - 11:00am | Break | | | | | |
| 11:00am - 12:00pm | Workshop/Panel/Oral Presentation Session B | | | | | |
| P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | Plaza Terrace A | Plaza Terrace B |
| (Panel) Staff Retention as an Integral Component in Applying Evidence-Based Practice in Residential Care <i>Amanda Dunn, Kelly Gill, Kimberley Jensen & Jack Barlow, Safe Places (AUS)</i> | (Oral) Moving from Evidence-Based Research to Practice <i>Bernie Centeo, MST (US)</i> (Oral) TCI-F in the Early Intervention Space, Supporting Families with Adolescents That Use Violence <i>Chantal Dodd, Centacare Catholic Community Services, South Australia (AUS)</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 & Lisa Brockheizen, Department of Education WA (AUS)</i> (Oral) Brains Built to Break Barriers: Building Inclusive Communities that Celebrate ADHD and ASD Strengths <i>Lisa Betts & Justine Capelle Collis, BRNWLD – Born ADHD (AUS)</i> | (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 (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> | (Oral) Evidence Based Foster Care – The journey of TFCO in Australia <i>Dale Rogers & Margaret Saungweme, OzChild (AUS)</i> (Oral) Empowering Futures – Professional Foster Care as a Transformative Alternative to Residential Care <i>Michelle Van Doorn & Kylie Williams, OzChild (AUS)</i> (Oral) Improving the Foster Care Experience – An innovative approach to supporting CYP <i>Marg Stott & Amy Mackenzie, OzChild (AUS)</i> | (Oral) Dodge, Dip, Duck, Dive and Dodge: The Importance of Physical Play for Trauma-Affected Children <i>Dominic Roth, UnitingCare (AUS)</i> (Workshop) The Importance of Play in Developmental Relationships <i>Brett Wilcock UnitingCare, Phoebe Kennedy YAG Youth Consultant, Hannah Ziebarth YAG Youth Consultant, Andre Anders UnitingCare, & Larnie McDonald, UnitingCare (AUS)</i> | (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, Allambi Care <i>Dr Howard Bath, Consultant, Program Director Allambi Care (AUS)</i> | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 2:00pm - 3:00pm | Workshop/Panel/Oral Presentation Session C | | | | | |
| P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | Plaza Terrace A | Plaza Terrace B |
| (Panel) Honoring Differences, Strengthening Connections: Australian First Nations' Perspective in Caring for Children and Families <i>First Nations TCI/F Trainers Reference Group (AUS)</i> | (Panel) CARE - Cross National Implementation Panel moderator: Martha Holden <i>Panelists: Eli Yishun Lee & Yu Hsu (Taiwan), Stacey Charchuk (Canada), Jorge del Valle (Spain), Emily Thomson & Ashley Barker (US), Courtney Patterson/Brett Wilcock (AUS), Angela Stanton-Greenwood (UK/Ireland)</i> | (Panel) A CENTRALISED MODEL: The National After-Hours Service, Life Without Barriers <i>Panel moderator: Zoe Gilrain</i> <i>Panelists: Elisabeth McDonald, Wendy Hazeldene, Tarsh Stevenson, Mags Mcgruther (AUS)</i> (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, Life Without Barriers and Tracy Hinchcliffe, Uniting NSW/ACT (AUS)</i> | (Oral) Theory to Practice: How We Made an Organizational Shift in Providing TCI to Our Organization <i>Brendan Shea, Wood's Homes (Canada)</i> (Oral) Innovating Tomorrow's Workforce: Human Centered Design and Diversity in Action <i>Samuel Mammen, Oak Hill Ranch (Canada)</i> | (Oral) Preserving a Vital System: The Future of Foster Care <i>Dr Lisa Griffiths, Ozchild & Jaimie Crosby, Families Australia (AUS)</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 & Ashley Barker, Waterford Country School (US)</i> | (Workshop) Multisystemic Therapy: Partnering with Families and Communities to Create Positive Outcomes for Young People <i>Cheryl Majka, Life Without Barriers (AUS), Jasmine MacLeod, Western Australia CAMHS Specilised (AUS), Veena Singh, Western Australia CAMHS Specilised (AUS), Kansas Marten, Anglicare Victoria and representative from VicPol, Gizem Tarazi, OzChild (AUS), Christine Kondov, Life Without Barriers (AUS)</i> | (Workshop) Why School Attendance Matters, and What You Can Do to Help <i>Professor Kitty Te Riele, Dr Emily Rudling, Shelley Stokes, Peter Underwood Centre, University of Tasmania & Clea North, Life Without Barriers (AUS)</i> |
| 3:00pm - 3:30pm | Break | | | | | |
| 3:30pm - 5:00pm | Plenary International Perspectives on Out-of-Home Care: Present and Future <i>Professor Lisa Holmes, University of Sussex (UK)</i> <i>Professor Jorge de Valle, University of Oviedo (Spain)</i> <i>Dr Junlei Li, Harvard University (US)</i> <i>Tammy, President of the Family Inclusion Strategies in the Hunter (AUS)</i> | | | | | Plaza Terrace |
| 5:00pm - 5:30pm | Conference Close Closing reflections from a range of participant perspectives | | | | | Plaza Terrace |