



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Welcome to the first Round Up for 2020! What an incredible few months we've had in NSW. October saw the CREATE team host a massive Connection Event at the Hunter Valley Zoo and our team loved meeting so many new and old clubCREATE members. In November we jumped on a plane to host a Fruit Picking Festival in Orange. Finally, we celebrated the end of 2019 in style by hitting the dance floor at the Christmas Formal Connection in Sydney. Thanks to everyone who joined us at all our events!

Our team had a blast meeting many of you at our Youth Advisory Groups and Speak Up training days across NSW. We've been blown away by your energy, determination and ideas and we can't wait to see our new Young Consultants in action.

We've recently waved goodbye to several amazing members of the NSW team including Dalal, Claudia, Laura and Erin. But many of you have already met our latest and greatest Community Facilitator, Sanj. Keep reading to find out more about Sanj and keep your eyes out for news about more people joining our team soon!



HITTING THE DANCEFLOOR

Our end of year Christmas Connection was certainly one to remember! The CREATE team were extra, EXTRA excited to see the care community come together for our biggest night of the year. We celebrated, danced the night away, and made some amazing new friends. The CREATE team transformed Club Central in Hurstville into the most wonderful party going around. There was glam corner with professional makeup and hair artists, a kid's corner with plenty of arts and craft activities and last but not least, Santa made a special guest appearance. We'd like to thank our MCs for the evening, Alex and Keyarnee, who did a brilliant job at welcoming guests to the event. We also want to thank Thread Together for generously donating spectacular formal wear for attendees. Finally, we want to thank every single person who put on their dancing shoes and joined us in celebrating 2019!

MEET OUR NEW COMMUNITY FACILITATOR - SANJ -

Name: Sanj

Pronouns: She/Her

Likes: Video games, dancing and meditation

Dislikes: Peanut butter and jam sandwiches

What do you love most about CREATE? The vibe

What motivated you to join THE CREATE crew? I love that CREATE provides a platform for children and young people with a care experience to have a voice and make changes that have the potential to improve the out of home care system in Australia.

If you could be an ice-cream flavour, what would you be? Mango and macadamia because it's a little bit sweet and a little bit nutty.



CREATE GOES FRUIT PICKING



In November, the CREATE team held our first ever Fruit Picking Festival!

We loved spending a day in the sun getting to know the awesome children, young people and families in Orange. There was a jumping castle, tractor rides, face painting and delicious berry picking. Thank you berry much to everyone who joined us on this special day! We can't wait to visit Orange again in 2020!

Our CREATE Young Consultant Rachael joined us at the Fun day out. As always she was an amazing advocate and supporter for the voices of children and young people in her local community and spread the word along the team on the work CREATE is doing.

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YOUNG CONSULTANTS IN ACTION



Our rock star Young Consultant, Alex represented the voices of children and young people in care at not one but two recent events in Sydney. Thank you Alex for being awesome keynote speaker at the 2019 Community Educators Forum hosted by the Education Centre Against Violence. Alex did an outstanding job sharing his story and advocating for change! Alex spoke about the importance of easily accessible and free mental health supports, for children and young people with a care experience. Sector workers and policy makers present at

the event could not stop thanking Alex for his contribution on the day!

Alex was also invited to be part of a seminar for UNSW Law students in November. This was a special opportunity for students to hear about Alex's lived experience of the child protection system. Students left the seminar motivated to put all they had learnt into action.

Thank you to the fabulous Alex for being one of the most dynamic change-makers we've met!

SPEAK UP !

Erin and Dalal had the best time facilitating Speak UP Level and Level 2 workshops in November. We joined a group of awesome young people who are confident and ready to change the care system. The group learnt about what advocacy means and how to use strength based communication. We also talked about personal boundaries and explored rights and responsibilities for young people in care. Each participant graduated from the



program and we are excited to have so many new Young Consultants in Sydney! We finished off the workshops with ice cream, laser tag and a spooky escape room experience.

We can't wait for our next Speak Up workshops happening in February 2020! Could you be our next Young Consultant?

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EVENTS CALENDAR *COMING SOON!*



DATE

WHERE

CONTACT

8/2/2020

Parramatta Speak Up Level 1

nsw@create.org.au

16/2/2020

Camperdown Fair Day Stall

nsw@create.org.au

21/2/2020

Kensington YAG

nsw@create.org.au

22/2/2020

Parramatta Speak Up Level 1

nsw@create.org.au

28/2/2020

Bankstown YAG

nsw@create.org.au

29/2/2020

Sydney Connection Event

nsw@create.org.au



"EACH CHILD IN CARE SHOULD BE TREATED AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND SHOULD FEEL ACCEPTED NO MATTER WHAT"

Alex, 24

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

GET IN CONTACT

If you would like to register for any of our events, find out the missing details or get information about CREATE head to our NSW page on www.create.org.au or contact us at 1800 655 105 or 9267 0977 or nsw@create.org.au

1800 655 105 (free-call on landlines)
9267 0977 (Sydney direct line) or
nsw@create.org.au



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Transitioning from care?
www.createyourfuture.org.au