



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?!



Welcome to July Round up! What a crazy few months it has been!

COVID-19 forced the world into a stand still. We had a lot of plans to come to you guys - in Taree, Broken Hill, Wagga Wagga, Shellharbour and Port Macquarie, but unfortunately we weren't able to! But the good news is - CREATE has moved everything online for now!

What an awesome time we have had together over ZOOM. We laughed, we danced, we munch on a lot of pizza but most importantly, we stay connected in a disconnected world. We just want to say thank you to everyone who joined us online, your voices matter now more than ever. Thank you for helping us create change and improve the care system and to ensure that every child's rights are maintained. We wouldn't be here without you guys!

Once this is all over CREATE is coming your way, with more face to face events, blended mode. Watch out!



PHOTOGRAPHY CONNECTION

We have never heard you so loudly and clearly before. Young people across the state of NSW participated in a photography connection where they sent in a photo and a short story of what #stability #connection #create #happyplace #covid19 means to them.

Young people were raw and honest with their feelings - sharing what matters to them as well as their achievements. We are only sad we don't have enough space here to share it all with everyone.

We want to say thank you to everyone who submitted, your amazing work was shown at CREATE's first ever virtual Gallery via ZOOM. Young people from across the state join to share their work and celebrate their peers. It was a fun way to connect and share about the issues that matters in our life. It was amazing to see so many of you online.

Against all odds, we felt more connected to you more than ever. As we navigate our way out of the pandemic, CREATE want to continue to be with you in the future. We are here for you!



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SCAVENGER HUNT CONNECTION

We held four scavenger hunts within the last few months of May and June. It was amazing to see so many of you online at the same. It was crazy at times, to have 50 people over zoom shouting out the different item but it was all fun and games.

At CREATE everyone was a winner, with \$25 for participation, pizza and lots of prizes to be won on the day. The best prize for us was to see the smiling faces of young people running around doing their best.

We even had the youngest member joining us at 17 months of age, of course with the help of her siblings and families. Families and friends are always welcome at our Connection events.

In such an interconnected world, we are more disconnected than ever. CREATE is here to change that. We are here whenever you need us. Whether online or face to face. The fun always continues, if you have a fun idea/activity that we can do together with you and the community, feel free to reach out and let us know.

We will always do our best to be there for you.



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NSW CREATE YOUNG CONSULTANT WEBINAR



We finished June with a bang, by providing young CREATE members with the full course of our SPEAK UP program, 1, 2 and 3. We are so proud to introduce a bunch of new Young Consultants who are able to share their perspectives and story to represent and discuss the issues of the care system. Together, we will change the system for the better for thousands of other young people in alternative care.

CREATE NSW would like to give a special thanks to all our young people and young consultants who have been a part of our journey to create change.

In an exciting turn of events, our NSW young consultants join forces and created a webinar. They had an in-depth discussion on issues that matter most to young people in the care system such as transition from care, support, mental health and ways to improve the NSW care system and the importance of having an advocacy platform. Our Young Consultants also shared their experiences and great insights to navigating life and the care system.

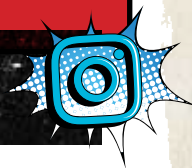
It's a must watch, visit us on our youtube channel for the three part webinar.



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CONNECTION

'Connection and creation are important, especially during these challenging times. The pandemic has shocked everyone and pulled us out of our comfort zones as many peoples health and financial security is at stake. It is more vital than ever that we stay connected because connection is a basic human need and without it is easy for anyone but especially young people in care to stay connected with those they can trust.

My time in care sometimes led me feeling disconnected and isolated as I didn't know who I could trust and moving from place to place led me feeling unstable.

The ability to be creative and do things that I was passionate about such as music and sport is what kept me positive and looking towards the future. The pandemic has helped me be more creative at home, putting all my time into making music and improving my skills as a musician, I have also had time to reflect on what really matters and open up more with people at home and online.

This is why I believe this pandemic is a good thing so long as we are staying safe and being positive and hope to inspire and help those in care if they feel isolated or lack motivation.'

From a young person at CREATE



YAG!



It's always a fun yarn at our YAG (Youth Advisory Group).

They say that COVID-19 has kept the world at a stand still. That didn't seem to apply to NSW CREATE, we took the lead in creating positive change in the care system, this couldn't have been done without you guys!

Our Youth Advisory Group ran throughout April, May, June on a weekly basis over ZOOM.

We utilised the current issues of COVID-19 to highlight the issue of youth homelessness. Spotlighted the issue of transitioning out of care. The homestretch campaign - CREATE's aim to extend care and support for young people till the age of 21. We've heard your views on aftercare supports too. Our goal to ensure that everyone of you has the opportunity to receive the best possible support to reach your full potential irrespective of where you are in life.

Our YAGs also highlight other important issue within the care system such as case worker support, placement support, education, life skills, COVID-19 and mental health.

Youth Advisory Groups are where your voices are heard and funneled up to government bodies to influence change.

Have your say now at our Youth Advisory Group. Anyone from the age of 10-26 are welcome. Change starts with young people!



EVENTS CALENDAR *COMING SOON!*

DATE	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
7/8/20	NAIDOC Youth Advisory Group	Online	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
7/15/20	Art Connection	Online	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
7/17/20	Speak Up 1	Online	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
7/22/20	Homelessness - Youth Advisory Group	Online	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
8/6/20	Youth Empowerment - Youth Advisory Group	Online	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
8/22/20	Speak Up 1	Online	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
9/5/20	Speak Up 2	Online	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
9/19/20	Mental Health - Youth Advisory Group	Parramatta	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
10/7/20	Halloween - Youth Advisory Group	Parramatta	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977
7/15/20	International Mens days - Youth Advisory Group	Parramatta	nsw@create.org.au 02 9267 0977



**"YOU ARE THE
CHANGE YOU SEE"**

- Xiolia

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.

create
FOUNDATION

www.create.org.au
Transitioning from care?
www.createyourfuture.org.au