

G'DAY!

We are now in 2021!

It's always amazing when we reach a new year - I start thinking about how fast the last one seemed to go.

2021 brings a bit of a change for us here in the ACT Team! Susan has moved on from CREATE and has started a new job with the Government! Good luck Susan and thanks for everything that you have done for young people in care!!

I'm still here at the Canberra office and will be joined by our new State Coordinator as soon as they come on board! We can't wait to get in touch and kick off 2021 with a bang!

- Nicky from CREATE



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Well, it's been a great 3 months.

We've had our sibling event at Inflatable World, which is always loads of fun! We also went along to Questacon where they have the 'Life on Mars' exhibit. That was a lot of fun and we learned some things along the way. From there we headed over to bowling and lunch at Belconnen.

In December, we went kayaking and stand up paddle boarding at YMCA Paddlehub, and had a ball.

There were multiple Christmas parties that we attended - the tastiest food ever was by the YMCA crew who hosted us at Leumeah Lodge!

If you want to come to any of our events, get in touch! You can ask to join our email list or join our private Facebook Group where we will keep you up to date!



SPEAK UP (SUP)

Speak Up is our leadership development training. This is where we learn about being a good leader and follower. We see the power behind our story and have a lot of fun!

The Moore family have generously donated funds to allow us to do more activities which give us two days instead of one. So more fun, and more time to spread out all the important stuff we learn.

Speak Up has three levels and we completed levels 1 and 2 in January. Some of the activities we had were team games in the park which our members really loved. We went to Kingpin to bowl and try our skills on their virtual reality games. All great opportunities to work together and have fun!

We also had great discussions around food at Vapiano, and had Mari, one of the workers, come and answer questions our young people really wanted to know.

We will be doing more again in the future! If you are 14 - 25 we'd love to have you along :)

YOUTH ADVISORY GROUPS

At our YAGs we have a monthly discussion about things in the care system, and then do a fun activity!

In October we went to Old Parliament house and did a tour, after our discussion about the "Fairness" of society - for example, "how fair is school?"

We also discuss issues like climate change, stigma, racism and the rights of young people in care. These are all issues that are at the forefront of the media and it's good to be able to safely talk about what's on your mind.

We do fun activities like bowling, movies, paddle boarding, tours and games! If there are any activities that you'd like us to do for a YAG come along to the next one and let us know!



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **COVID 19 FUNDING PROJECT**

We have been working with ACT Together's CAP program and Child and Youth Protection Services with a special COVID program that has been assisting young people who have left care and may have been financially impacted by COVID-19.

This has been a great initiative as we have seen many young people get some extra help with all kinds of things. We have a few young people that have had courses, clothes, gym memberships and classes provided - just to name some examples!

This time throughout the pandemic has been interesting, but there's opportunity to give things a go.

If you have recently left care and need assistance you can talk to us at CREATE or after care support at ACT Together.

I talked with Maxine recently about Warehouse Circus where she is now able to attend.

What do you love about Warehouse Circus?

"It's so versatile. They were very accepting of me on how I view myself, and what I wanted to do there."

What do you want to do there ?

"I identify as a female fox and part of my circus identity would be becoming a circus clown fox. The first of my kind to hopefully become famous one day."



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **COVID 19 CATCH UPS**

Since COVID started we have received some extra funding to make sure we can catch up with people in care. This means making phone calls to people, organising catch up events at cafes and things like that!

We've been doing catch ups with children and young people at various places around Canberra.

If you would like a catch up, let us know! We can organise a catch up somewhere it is easy for you to access. If you want to call up and catch up over the phone, feel free to give me, Nicky, a call and say, "hello"! Or, you might hear from me first as I have also been ringing around!

One thing I've noticed is some of the contact details we have aren't current. If you could find time to text or email me any changes that might have happened in the last year that would be great. I'll even call and say hi :)

I hope to catch you soon.

Nicky, 0401 331 776,
nicky.link@create.org.au





We hope you had a great Christmas holidays, and look forward to doing stuff with you this year during 2021.

If you have any ideas for us, please let us know. We love to hear from everyone :)

***"HAVING YOUR RIGHTS RESPECTED...
AND KNOW WHAT THEY ARE, HELPS
YOU FEEL SAFE."***

(Male, 16yrs)

EVENTS CALENDAR *COMING SOON!*

<i>DATE</i>	<i>WHAT</i>	<i>WHERE</i>	<i>CONTACT</i>
20 March	YAG - Kayaking / Stand up paddleboard	YMCA Paddlehub	Nicky
13 April	YAG - Bowling - Have your say on national level!	Tuggeranong	Nicky
15 April	Come and Play - Sibling day	TBC	Nicky



YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!!!



Have you had a look at the latest magazine competitions? There are heaps of chances to win inside - don't miss out! Send your entries to clubcreate@create.org.au

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 ACT page at:

www.create.org.au or contact us on **1800 655 105**
or **Nicky** on **0401 331 776** or **nicky.link@create.org.au**



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