



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

**We are so happy that 2021 has found us reunited with you all doing face-to-face activities again.**

It was so great to see so many smiling faces at our Easter event at Bounce in April. We have had an exciting couple of months with face-to-face and online events, a camp and the amazing Hour of Power, where young people talked about what is important to them in supporting good wellbeing. We had guests like the new Secretary for the DFFH (the new name for DHHS), Sandy Pitcher, and she was really keen to hear what our presenters had to say. We also had Minister for Child Protection, Luke Donellan, politicians, our own CEO and more. You can find out more about the HOP on our website. We can't wait to see you at our Child Protection week event in September so make sure you contact us to register for your tickets. Until then stay warm, stay safe and keep smiling!

### ***The CREATE VIC CREW***

***Cath, Deb, Russ, Lydia, Louise, Bec, Jade and Pat***

### **CONNECTION EVENT**



For the first time in over a year, CREATE put on a fun Connection Event in person! While we had some great fun doing online events over the past year, it was nice to see more than 40 children and young people attend the trampolining event at Bounce Inc in Glen Iris. Thanks to everyone who came. We hope you enjoyed freestyle bouncing, slam-dunking, slack-lining and of course the chocolate.

CREATE will be running more fun Connection Events this year, so make sure to check in with us for dates and details. We also send a regular enews - stay updated on all our latest events! You can also find our events on the CREATE website.

# YOUTH EXPERT ADVISORY GROUP (YEAG)

Victoria's Transitions from Care Youth Expert Advisory Group (YEAG) members have been making a big impression out there in the world of brand-new HomeStretch extended care policy. Child Protection Minister Luke Donnellan acknowledged the efforts of care experienced young people in advocating for this historic change in Victoria in his speech to Parliament on International Care Day on Feb 19th <https://twitter.com/lukedonnellan/tatus/1362594858846679046?s=21>

YEAG members co-design training and networking sessions with BSL to highlight the best ways workers and services can support young people transitioning from care. Young people's presentations are always a highlight and everyone is seeing all the awesome things that can happen when we listen to young people's voices, and involve young people in improving the care system!



# YOU ROCK!

Sam was amazing for helping out with Speak Up Level 1 at short notice.

Bree and Tash - Congrats for joining the Implementation Steering Group of the Road-map Implementation Ministerial Advisory Group. Try saying that three times really fast!

Ella, Chris, Hayley, Bree, Sharon, Kiara and Aaron are legends for being part of the round-table on building the best resi-care workforce.

Well done Fatou, Marcelle and Emily for completing all three levels of Speak Up.

Thanks to Tobias for co-facilitating SUP 3.

Nice work Bonnie, Petra and Dee for doing SUP 1 and for the incredible job he did with the ABC for the media coverage on the over representation of children and young people in missing persons data.

Jemma rocks for her great speech and discussion to the Catholicare Ballarat & Horsham crew.

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"That YAG really cheered me up! I've been going through some heavy things but talking to like-minded people about our like-minded struggles is really helpful and to make a big change in the world is really awesome!" – Pearl

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"I really enjoying the budgeting topic of CREATE Your Future" – Ella

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## CONNECTION EVENT

CREATE is heading back to Bendigo for a Connection Event for all of our ClubCREATE members. Let's meet up and have a FUN day!

Join us for LASER TAG and SKATING PARTY

Make new friends and find out more about CREATE!

ALL children and young people with a care experience aged 0-25 are invited (For under 18's carer attendance is required.)

Head to the events section on the back for all the details. We look forward to seeing you there.

## MEET CATH!



**For those that don't know Cath she is the Victorian State Coordinator and who's celebrating 15 years with CREATE this year. 15 years is a long time, why do you love working at CREATE?**

I work with an amazing team of people at CREATE, the passionate Vic crew are just awesome and the amazing young people with a lived experience continue to inspire me each day to keep pushing for more change

**What changes have you seen over the last 15 years?**

Well for starters CREATE has grown so much, although we are still a small team we offer so many more opportunities for children and young people to impact a better care system. Change can be slow so I feel honoured to have witnessed so much change, from the recent extension of care to 21 in Victoria, to a genuine value and commitment from the Victorian government and care agencies for the voice of young people being involved in reform. Helping to feed into designing different policies and practices that impact real changes for children and young people in care.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I love my garden and growing my own veggies, I love to hang out at the beach and Kayaking. But my favoritest thing ever is hanging out with my cheeky puppy Willow a very busy mischievous black Cavoodle.



# EVENTS CALENDAR *COMING SOON!*

DATE	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
28 June	Connection Event (0-25 face to face)	Bendigo	Russell.Mulry@create.org.au
1 July	CREATE Your Future	TBA	Rebecca.Cole@create.org.au
4-11 July	NAIDOC Week	TBA	Michelle
12 August	Under 13 Connection Event	Online (Zoom)	Louise.Singleton@create.org.au
11 Sept	Child Protection Week Connection Event	TBA	Russell.Mulry@create.org.au
28 Sept	Speak Up Level 1	TBA	Louise.Singleton@create.org.au
19 Oct	Under 13 Connection Event	Online	Louise.Singleton@create.org.au



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**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 VIC page on [www.create.org.au](http://www.create.org.au) or contact us at 1800 655 105 or 03 9918 0002 or [victoria@create.org.au](mailto:victoria@create.org.au)



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