



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

**How great is it that spring is here and some sunshine is finally greeting us again?!**

Well 2021 has given some opportunities to connect with you all face to face and we can't wait to offer more opportunities.

Through the restrictions roller coaster we continue to offer online opportunities for us all to connect, so check out the website for ongoing events. We have some exciting stuff coming up with Child Protection Week just around the corner and, of course, stay tuned for our Christmas party announcements. We have also had the announcement by the Government as of July 1 that anyone in permanent care turning 18 can access Homestretch or extended care to 21. Celebrate with us, this is great news! Contact us to find out more.

We are also excited to let you know Lydia will be helping out with more events and CREATE your Future. So happy to have her smiley face around more, drop her a line to say hi. Can't wait to celebrate the year with you all in person, stay safe everyone.

***The CREATE VIC CREW***



Over the last school holidays we met with some cool Young People at the Abbotsford Convent to discuss why it's important for Young People with an out-of-home care experience to have access and funding to hobbies and extra-curricular activities.

This discussion raised some awesome personal experiences and stories on what hobbies have done for young people and how for some; have lead to work opportunities! – after sharing stories we shared a delicious meal at Lentil As Anything – some people ordered a second round. IT WAS THAT GOOD!

**Keep an eye out for our next YAG and we hope to see you there.**

# CREATE YOUR FUTURE CAMP

**In May we held our first CYF Camp in over twelve months and what an amazing time we had!**

We travelled down to the Mornington Peninsula and enjoyed many beach walks, some amazing food and quality time building friendships with others.

Over the course of the camp we spent time exploring the CREATE Ur Crib and Legit Wellbeing CYF modules, which aims to provide practical knowledge and skills to help young people on their independent living journey.

In the upcoming January 2022 holidays we are planning on delivering an under 18's CYF camp. So if you are aged 14 - 17 and this opportunity interests you, please email Bec at [Rebecca.cole@create.org.au](mailto:Rebecca.cole@create.org.au) to be notified when places open up



# HOP 2021



After a year of uncertainty and upheaval in Melbourne, one thing is CERTAIN - our young people presented powerful, thought provoking speeches and a variety of topics connected to wellbeing. Covering topics including the impacts of constant change on education, the amazing benefits of being out in nature on camps, housing and the innovative idea of a mental health service exclusively for young people in out of home care.

120 people attended and stayed to participate in workshops in the afternoon led by the young people.

Thanks to our guest speakers Minister Luke Donnellan, Children's Commissioner Liana Buchanan and Aboriginal Children's Commissioner Justin Mohamed, to our panellist who all remarked that they will take away the recommendations presented by young people.

But the biggest thanks is to our incredible 8 young people who shared amazing messages, thanks CREATE young consultants and our MOIRA youth ambassadors.



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## CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2021

**This year Child Protection week  
will be held from 5-11th  
of September 2021**

CREATE is heading on  
September 11th to Bendigo  
for our Child Protection week  
Connection Event for all of  
our ClubCREATE members  
and young people with a care  
experience.

Let's meet up and have a FUN  
day! Join us for LASER TAG and  
SKATING PARTY and to make  
new friends and you find out  
more about CREATE and the  
work we do.

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.



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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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Lacee, Jesse, Ella, Talia, River, Aaron,  
Josh, Ben, Tanisha and Pearl. And of  
course our brilliant MC, Tobias for the  
HOP.

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Tay for featuring in a video for the  
Lookout Centre encouraging more  
work experience opportunities for  
young people in care; Emily for talking  
about transitioning from care for the  
Everyday Life Skills promo video; and  
Tobias for sharing his leaving care story  
for a Vic government video about the  
Home Stretch program.

Sam for co-facilitating Speak Up  
Level 1, and Abby for her first time  
ever co-facilitating Speak Up Level 2.

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Well done Caitlin and Tay for their  
presentations at training for Better  
Futures workers.

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Yay for our Resi Care experienced  
All-Stars: Hayley, Bree, Chris, Aaron,  
Sharon, Zac, Kiara, Naima and  
Shannon. You helped Worksafe Victoria  
understand how to make Resi safer  
Marcelle and Tay rock for helping to  
train new permanent carers.

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Finally, Tash is a true legend for doing  
so much to improve the care system  
over many years.

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# EVENTS CALENDAR *COMING SOON!*

DATE	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
11 Sept	Child protection Week Connection event	Bendigo	9918 0003 Victoria@create.org.au
21 Sept	Speak Up Level 1	TBA	Rebecca.Cole@create.org.au
22 Sept	CREATE Your Future	Frankston	Rebecca.Cole@create.org.au
28 Sept	Speak Up Level 2	TBA	Louise.Singleton@create.org.au
2 Oct	Youth Advisory Group (YAG)	North Melbourne	9918 0003 Victoria@create.org.au
4 Oct	Speak Up Level 3	TBA	Louise.Singleton@create.org.au
13 Oct	Youth Advisory Group (YAG)	Melbourne	Louise.Singleton@create.org.au
19 Oct	Under 13 Connection Event	Online	Rebecca.Cole@create.org.au
19 Oct	Under 13s Connection Event	Online (Zoom)	Lydia.Mikhail@create.org.au
4 Nov	Youth Advisory Group	Melbourne	Rebecca.Cole@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 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)



[www.create.org.au](http://www.create.org.au)  
Transitioning from care?  
[www.createyourfuture.org.au](http://www.createyourfuture.org.au)