Welcome to

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Learn what CREATE does

Hear about your rights in care

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Get involved with our events!

Free parties, skills and empowerment programs



Welcome to the club!



Update your details:



| Full name: | |
|----------------|--|
| Email address: | |
| Phone number: | |
| Date of birth: | |
| Address: | |
| | |

Please send this completed form to:

CREATE Foundation Reply Paid 87694 Spring Hill QLD or email clubcreate@create.org.au

Why am I recieving this?

If you haven't signed up for clubCREATE yourself, it's likely that you're receiving this because CREATE has been given your information by the state/territory government for the purpose of joining clubCREATE.

clubCREATE is your exclusive club, only for people with a care experience. While The government is keen to ensure children and young people in care are able to access the opportunities and services provided through CREATE, and they also want you to have a choice to belong or not, you can at any time advise us that you do not wish to be a part of CREATE. If you would rather not be involved, just let us know via the details below and you will be removed from our database and our mailing list.

Contact us...

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Head to our website www.create.org.au/clubcreate

Email us at clubcreate@create.org.au

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Post FREE to: clubCREATE Reply Paid 87694, Spring Hill QLD 4004

Call the CREATE team in your state or territory on 1800 655 105

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Welcome to CREATE

HI THERE!

From all of us here at CREATE... welcome! We are so glad to have you as part of our exclusive club for children and young people with a care experience – clubCREATE!

In this magazine you will find out a little more about how CREATE works, what it is that we do, and also some information on your rights in care. You'll also learn about some of our awesome programs and activities for children and young people – including Connection Events, Speak Up, CREATE Your Future and Youth Advisory Groups! These are all awesome ways to meet other young people with experience in care, while learning new skills, gaining confidence and having a lot of fun!

Our mission is to **Connect** children and young people to each other, CREATE and their community; to **Empower** you to speak up and have your say; and of course, to **Change** the care system for the better! Everything we do is working towards that bigger goal – with your help!

We are so excited to have you as part of our community. To make sure we can stay in touch, we would greatly appreciate if you could fill out the update your details form on the opposite page. Updating your details means we can send you clubCREATE magazines, and invite you to fun events and empowering programs. *Welcome to clubCREATE - we can't wait to see you at one of our events!*

Jacqui Reed CEO and Head Honcho CREATE Foundation



How does CREATE work?

We are a systemic advocate. That is a fancy way of saying that we work to change the care system! The way that we do that starts with you guys – children in care. You know best what needs to change, so our work starts with talking to you and understanding what's working and what isn't.



This is the **CONNECT** part of our mission – we connect at fun events and activities!

- Then we **EMPOWER** we offer lots of fun training programs and workshops to help you feel confident and learn new skills. We want you to feel comfortable about speaking up for yourself and make sure you know your rights.
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Then, with your help, we **CHANGE** the care system! From what you tell us, we can go and talk to the Governments and people who make big decisions to tell them what important things need to change to make the care system better. There are lots of ways we do this. Advocacy might look like going to government meetings, writing submissions to change policies or laws, campaigning on social media or doing research into the experiences of young people. Young Consultants (careexperienced young people who have done our Speak Up program) might also come along with us to speaking events, to meet with ministers, and to train new caseworkers. Whatever the way we advocate – it is always your voices at the centre.

> We do a lot of things at CREATE – but most importantly, we want you to have fun, and feel safe while hanging out with us! That's how CREATE works!



How does CREATE work?

Now that you know a little more about how CREATE works, let's see if you can find all the words relating to CREATE in this word search! There are 10 to find – good luck!



HINTS

EVENT MAGAZINE EMPOWER

ADVOCACY

DECISIONMAKER RESILIENT REMARKABLE YAG CONNECT CHANGE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

RESOURCEFUL VOICES



Help us find Gus!

Gus the gorilla is CREATE's mascot! You might see him around some of our videos, at events or on our posters. But the trouble is... we've lost Gus! Can you find him by getting through the maze below?







Every child has rights.

These are things that are protected by the law to make sure you are safe and cared for. Each state and territory has slightly different rights, but these are all based on something called Safe and Supported: the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021 - 2031. Safe and Supported sets out how all governments, Aboriginal and Torres Strait leaders and the non government sector will work together to help children, young people and families in need of support.

We've got links to the Charter of Rights in each state and territory on the opposite page – these are really important, so make sure you take a look and maybe even ask your carer or caseworker to talk with you about them!

Your rights include things like:

Access to records and information about yourself



Stability



Support and planning for leaving care

Participation in decisions that affect your life

First Nations communities having a say on decisions surrounding First Nations kids



Personalised plans for your journey in life



Being looked after physically and mentally

Access to school and education



Participation in social activities like sport or community events

Support to safely stay in touch with family

Access to support people and people you can ask advice from





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Carers need to have training and support to provide quality care



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Want to get involved? Woohoo!

We have SO many opportunities for you to get involved with CREATE, and how involved you get is totally up to you!

If you're under 12 you can:

Go to a Connection Event!

- Have fun with other kids in care at our awesome events
- Meet the CREATE team

Check out our latest magazines

- We produce new editions every three months
- Read stories about other kids in care, learn about CREATE's work and see what's been happening around Australia
- Enter competitions and do fun activities

Have your say

- Your voice is so important tell us what you think about CREATE or your life in care
- Talk to your carers about CREATE
- Help us change the system for the better!

I've grown so much from hanging out with other kids like me, I feel like part of a bigger family, a family that actually understands and gets me.



If you're a little older, you can do all of the above, while also starting to look at things like:

Getting involved in a YAG

 Youth Advisory Groups (YAGs) are a great way to get involved. Our teams will organise a fun activity, like bowling or laser tag to get everyone feeling comfortable and having fun. Then we will sit around, have some food and talk about some of the real issues in the care system and what you guys feel needs to change.

Learning to Speak Up

 Speak Up or SUP is our empowerment program! This is where you can become a Young Consultant and advocate alongside CREATE! There are three levels to this training and you'll learn about the care system, about advocacy and how to speak up about what's important to you.

Joining a CREATE Your Future workshop - and more!

 Are you on your journey to independence? Are you feeling nervous, or maybe don't even know where to begin when it comes to "adulting"? CREATE Your Future is the program for you! Through our workshops you'll learn life skills like budgeting and how to find a job – amongst many more!



There are so many ways for you to get involved. The best way to start is by getting in touch with us! Check out what's coming up in your state, or give your local team a call. *We can't wait to meet you!*



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Why wait, participate!



Participation means having a say in decisions that affect your life!

Draw a picture of something you've participated in! This could be a sport, a club – anything! Send it through to clubCREATE@create.org.au for a chance to be featured on our social media!



How you can get involved...

Let's play CREATE bingo! Can you tick off all of these activities and score bingo?



I love that they give you opportunities to speak and be heard. They never judge. – Female. 15

> I love CREATE and the work you do and I don't mind travelling to your programs even when it takes over 3 hours for me to get home. May I please request that you continue to hold online YAGs post lockdown as sometimes I have Uni and I am unable to travel. — Young Person

What other children and young people have said about the club!

This has been great...I am here with all my brothers and I have just met my cousins for the first time...it's great being here all together! – clubCREATE member

CREATE provides a safe place for young people with care experiences to come together and speak about what matters to them and what they believe needs to be fixed, giving them a voice in the way the system is handled in the future. For others it also provides a place to find friends and encourage others to follow their dreams. – Female, 20 I love how being part of CREATE we are able to make an impact, make a difference and create change. It's also how we can share our story and be listened to. CREATE crew also support us with our emotional issues. — Female, 25

I have spoken on panels, forums, training foster carers and caseworkers. I shared my story in the newspaper, podcasts, TV and radio. I am ready to close this chapter of my life. Yes I grew up in foster care but I am so much more than that now. I plan to be a foster carer in the future but for now, I say goodbye, thank you for the friends and memories. — Female, 25



It was the best day of my life. – clubCREATE member

Today's SUP session was one of the best things I've done in my 24 years. – SUP participant, 24

I like talking to CREATE because it's a safe place and it will change things. – clubCREATE member



Contact information:



CREATE Foundation Limited National Office 1/3 Gregory Tce Spring Hill Qld 4000 ABN 69 088 075 058

Make sure your details are up to date!

You can send your updated details form to us for free using: Reply Paid 87694 Spring Hill QLD 4004

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You can opt out of clubCREATE at any time by emailing clubcreate@create.org.au or phoning CREATE on 1800 655 105.