

PRIZES TO BE WON INSIDE! ENTER THE COMPETITIONS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

# CLUBCREATE MAGAZINE

**MEET TARA, HASH  
AND ASHTON!**

**MINDFULNESS FOR THE  
HOLIDAYS!**



# Welcome to the CLUBCREATE MAGAZINE



EDITION 4 2023

## IN THIS ISSUE:

### Hi clubCREATE-ers!

I hope you are all enjoying a break over the holidays and having fun.

This edition has some great tips for mindfulness for the holidays so please check it out.

Conference registrations are open so if you haven't already booked tickets, please get in quickly! We are so excited to bring you a live in-person conference in Adelaide in 2024!! This year's theme, 'Your Stories. Stronger Together' will showcase the importance of each individual young person's story and by bringing all your voices together, we will effect positive change.

Don't miss the chance to win some cool prizes by entering our competitions. Your artwork and entries always bring a smile to our faces! Let your creativity shine!

*Jacqui Reed*

Head Honcho

### WE LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK!

Send suggestions into [clubcreate@create.org.au](mailto:clubcreate@create.org.au)

### clubCREATE's Editorial Policy

clubCREATE Magazine is produced by CREATE Foundation for children and young people in care. This magazine contains information about CREATE programs that create a better life for kids in care and also has articles and artworks by clubCREATE members. It's really important to us that children and young people in care are safe and protected and we do our utmost to

ensure their privacy. For safety reasons state laws don't allow the faces of kids in care to be published without proper permission. So please understand that if these young people are not reflective of the story or blurred it is for safety and legal reasons. All contributions to be considered for the magazine can be submitted by email:

[clubcreate@create.org.au](mailto:clubcreate@create.org.au) or post: Reply Paid 87694, Spring Hill QLD 4004. If you do not want to receive newsletter and program information from CREATE Foundation please email [clubcreate@create.org.au](mailto:clubcreate@create.org.au) or phone CREATE on 1800 655 105 to have your address removed from our mailing list.



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### Acknowledgement of Country

CREATE would like to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's first people and Traditional Custodians. We value their cultures, identities, and continuing connection to country, waters, kin and community.

### GET SOCIAL!

Facebook: /CREATEfnd

Instagram: @CREATEfnd



# IN THE LOOP

## World Care Day

World Care Day which is on the 17th February is the world's biggest celebration of children who grow up in care. Children and young people are strong, resilient and more than just their care experience! This Care Day, everyone has the chance to get vocal, get social, or to get together in celebration of your story. Keep an eye out on our socials as we celebrate with the world on how amazing you all are.

#worldcareday2024



## Child Protection Week wrap up

What an amazing week we had in September for Child Protection Week! We had loads of events in each State and Territory including awards nights, virtual games nights, morning teas, fancy dinners, sunset cruises and more. All celebrating the wonderful people who work to improve the system for children and young people in care.

## Holidays

The holidays can bring up mixed feelings about families and friends, and some feelings we might not like. The thing with feelings is that they will move on, they come and go, and make way for new feelings in time. Make sure you reach out to people who make you feel good, and have a yarn or a chat when you need to.

- CREATE's Sortli app
- [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au) 13 11 14
- [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au) 1800 551 800
- [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au) 1300 224 636



# Meet ASHTON

**Name:** Ashton (ACT)

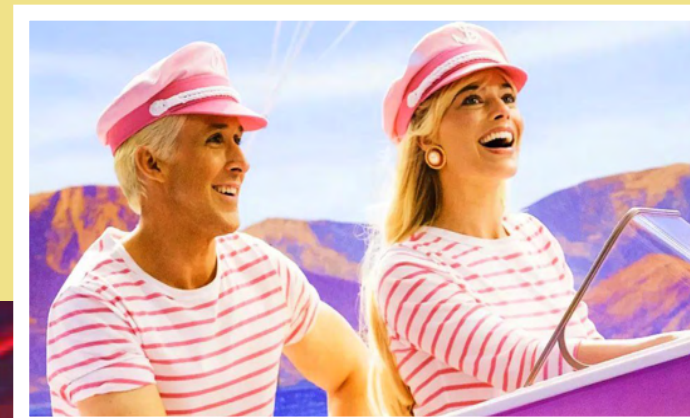
**How old are you:** 13

## What are some of your current hobbies and interests?

I am really enjoying drawing and art. I am doing a lot at school and I love colour! Anything colourful especially paintings. Colour makes me feel joyful and bubbly and I incorporate a lot of colour into my art. I love doing drama. I'm currently in a School of Rock musical and I do drama at the Canberra Performing Arts Centre for Acting.

## What has been a highlight for you this year?

This year a highlight has been going to see a heap of concerts for the first time. I wasn't sure what to expect but I have loved it. I saw the Tina Turner musical, KISS, Mötley Crüe, PINK and Taylor Swift.



## Tell us about some of your experience with CREATE?

I have loved it. I had a great time with other young people and have really loved being with CREATE. I love everything, everything has been really enjoyable. I can't pick a favourite cause they are all great.

## What are some of your ideas for ACT and the out-of-home care community?

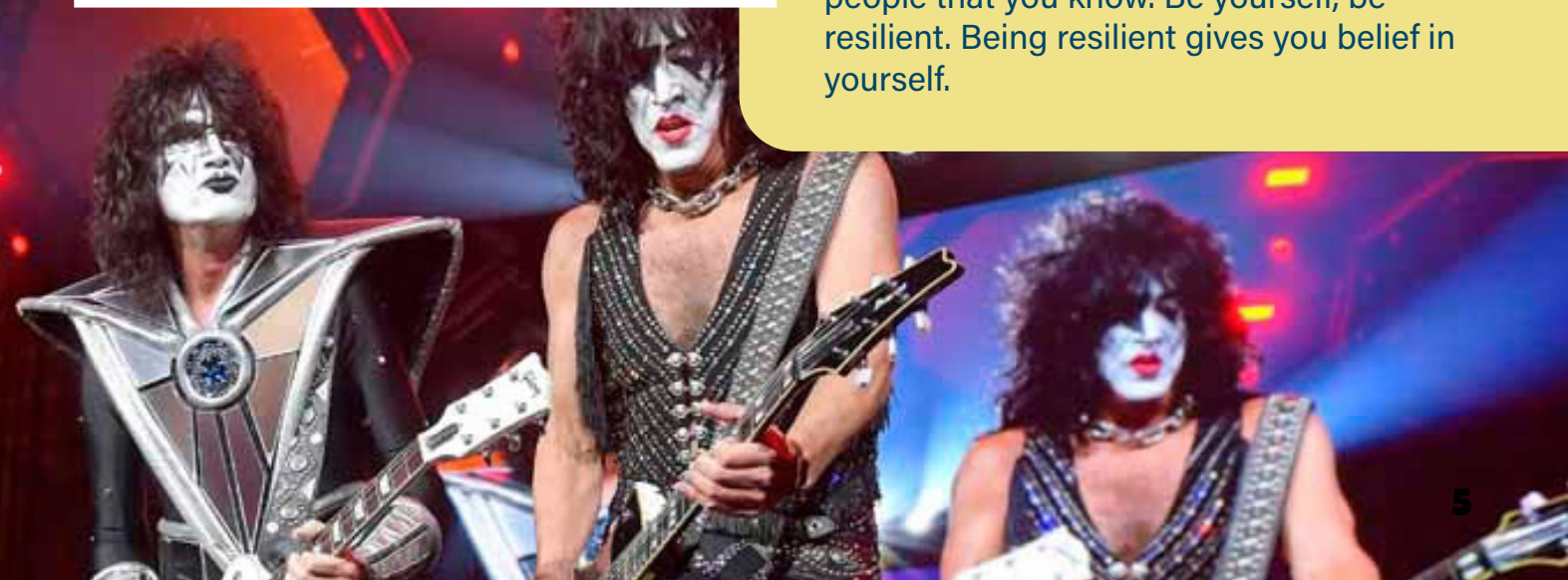
I think there should be more education for people on the life of a child in out-of-home care who is Neurodiverse. It can be hard to be different from my peers because I am in care but this can be intensified due to my Neurodiversity.

## Got any dreams for the future?

In 10 years, I want to become an actor. I also want to work in fashion and modelling and I want to learn singing and songwriting. If I could be the lead actor for any movie it would have to Barbie! Ken watch out.

## Any advice for all the other clubCREATE members across Australia?

Everybody in the whole CREATE community has something special about them. Don't be afraid of it. Talk to the people that you know. Be yourself, be resilient. Being resilient gives you belief in yourself.





# SNAICC CONFERENCE WRAP UP: IT'S GOTTA GO BACK TO COMMUNITY

Dr Elise Hilder

It's so different to see kids who go back and connect with country; it's a different lens, it's organic and beautiful, and you can see it change kids. We don't see it happen in care. There shouldn't be any difference; if we can celebrate it at home with our families why can't we do it in care?

(Young Person, SA Submission Discussion Group)

Voices at the Top was the theme for this year's SNAICC conference on Larrakia Country in Darwin. Young Consultant Brooke Oliver, a proud Kaurna woman, joined me to present a snapshot of a recent inquiry into First Nations removals and placement in South Australia.

The inquiry was guided by April Lawrie, SA Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People, and focused on how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle is applied in the removal and placement of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care.

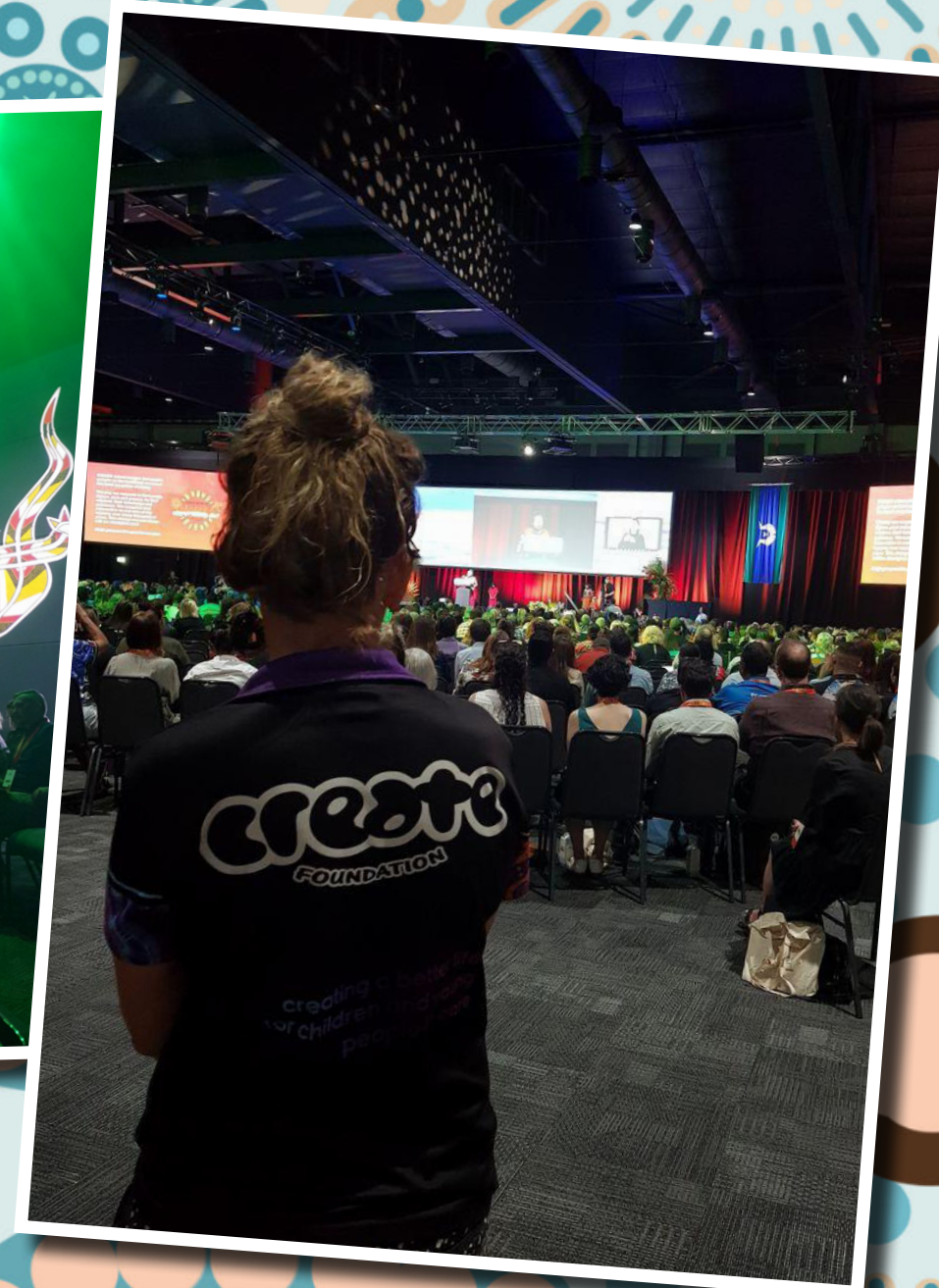
Brooke initially took part in the inquiry through submission discussion groups in which she helped facilitate and create a safe space for CREATE's young people to have a yarn. The voices of young people at these sessions then directly informed CREATE's submission.

Attending SNAICC's biggest conference to date in September, Brooke and I had a

big audience to impress but Brooke was fierce, honest, and impassioned; by the closing of her speech there were cheers, whistles, and a thank you shouted across the auditorium.

Brooke spoke of her own lived experience in the out-of-home care system in South Australia before presenting a call to action.

Importantly, she also highlighted the importance of her presence ("a government kid") at this year's conference. Brooke was only one of a few young people actually presenting, setting a precedent for future young people to take the stage. Brooke certainly inspired the audience; her voice was deadly and definitely **AT THE TOP**.



## CALL TO ACTION

- **Every Aboriginal child and young person in care having a Nunga/ Aboriginal Social Worker and Cultural mentors;**
- **Healing camps on Country with Elders/Aboriginal workers and families;**
- **Be led by Grandmother's Lore;**
- **Children and family voices in decision making;**
- **Maintaining contact with community and families;**
- **Reunifications where possible;**
- **Practicing Deep Listening;**
- **Removal of residential care ("Resi care needs to be obsolete - it's traumatised kids traumatising others"); and**
- **Aboriginal leads within the roles of ministers and throughout the Department.**



# CONSULTATIONS

## What is a consultation?

A consultation is when CREATE talks with children and young people with a care experience to get their views on matters that involve them.

## Why does CREATE consult with children and young people?

CREATE thinks that hearing what young people have to say about their experiences in the out-of-home care system is important. It helps us to understand what is working well, what is not working well, and young people's ideas for change. These insights from young people help guide CREATE's advocacy work with decision-makers. We want Governments and other decision-makers to make legislation, policies, and practices better for everyone by listening to the experiences of young people.

**CREATE has created opportunities for young people to help to change the system**  
(Young person, 18 years)

## What has CREATE done over the past 12 months?

Over the past year, CREATE has spoken with 255 young people across Australia about a range of topics related to their care and support needs. Topics included:

- Support from Caseworkers in Victoria and Australian Capital Territory;
- Extending Care to 21 in Queensland;
- Education in the Northern Territory;
- Accessing Records in the Northern Territory;
- Sibling placement, contact, and connections in Western Australia and South Australia;
- Complaints processes in New South Wales; and
- Health and wellbeing in Tasmania and Western Australia.



## What is CREATE doing now?

CREATE is now busy working with Governments and the sector to make change happen. We have sent a report to Governments about the consultations we have completed in their State with ideas for change based on what young people have said. We also are talking with Governments and people in the sector about what young people have said is working well and what needs to be improved.

## Where can I find out more about these consultations?

If you want to read more about what young people have said about a particular topic, you can go to

[www.create.org.au/consultations/](http://www.create.org.au/consultations/)

**They [CREATE] listen to everyone's voice.**  
(Young person, 20 years)

## How can I get involved in a consultation and have my say?

CREATE is currently consulting with young people in Victoria, Australian Capital Territory, and Northern Territory about health and wellbeing (e.g., what you do to look after your health and wellbeing, any concerns you might have, how you could be better supported). In Queensland, CREATE is consulting with young people about support from caseworkers.

You can get involved by contacting your state team or expressing your interest at:

[www.create.org.au/consultations/](http://www.create.org.au/consultations/)



CREATE Foundation's Youth Advisory Groups (YAGs) are a youth empowerment program that provide young people between 10 and 25 with an out-of-home care experience an opportunity to have their voices heard. YAG meetings provide the opportunity for young people – in care or who have left care – to talk about issues they are facing in the care system. It is the sharing of their experiences that informs CREATE's advocacy and helps us to build our resources, programs and policy developments. Last year CREATE hosted over 100 Youth Advisory Groups nationally, with just over 800 young people participating across those sessions.

CREATE's YAGs provide a forum for children and young people to share their opinions, experiences, and concerns. They are designed to be fun and informal group sessions, where young people get to talk about the issues that are affecting them and what changes they want to see in the care system.

## What Young People told us in YAGs

*"YAGs to me mean I have a chance to be heard and feel like my experiences are heard, along with feeling like I belong since I'm around a lot of young adults or people in care that share similar experiences"*  
(Young person)

*"I like being involved in Youth Advisory Groups because it gives me a way to express my voice and makes me feel heard and empowered"*  
(Young person)

*"I'm 18 and with the announcement I can still be supported it would be so stressful for me if I was looking for a place on my own without support"*  
(Young person, NSW)

## MEET HASH

This is Hash! Hash grew up in the Logan area (south of Brisbane) and has been involved with the Department of Child Safety since the day he was born.

Hash has experienced kinship care, foster care, residential care and youth justice. At school, Hash faced a lot of stigma. Teachers often treated him differently from his peers. Due to ongoing trouble at his foster placement, Hash's teachers thought he was 'disruptive' and he was even expelled from school!

He then went into the youth justice system and was given a place where he received regular meals, engaged in extracurricular activities and was able to develop close friendships with his peers and some of the workers there. When he left the youth justice system he took this experience with him and attempted to get back into school. Sadly, the school would not take him back, despite his promise that he would apply himself.

During this time, Hash reconnected with his old CSO, who later became his natural mentor. Hash was connected with services that supported his transition out of care. He learned how to drive, enrolled in a distance education school and worked with his natural mentor to ensure he had all the supports in place to succeed.

Hash has snapped that stigma by working hard and graduating from high school. He got his driver's license, bought a car and got a job in transportation and warehousing. Hash is also a Young Consultant with CREATE and recently attended the Ministerial Round Table for the Residential Care Review.

**Well done Hash!**

# #Snap that Stigma



If you have a #SnapthatStigma story to share, please email [marketing@create.org.au](mailto:marketing@create.org.au)

**We have YAGs in every state, online and in person - contact your state team to join in.**





# MINDFULNESS

Thanks to Annie Harvey from The Still Effect for these mindfulness tips for the holidays.

*"Mindfulness is paying full attention to what is going on in you and outside you, moment by moment, without judgment. It means you observe your thoughts, feelings, and the sensations of taste, touch, smell, sight and sound. You are also fully aware of your surroundings."*

Be kind to your mind



Your Mental Health  
Matters

[www.thestilleffect.com.au](http://www.thestilleffect.com.au)

# MENTAL HEALTH

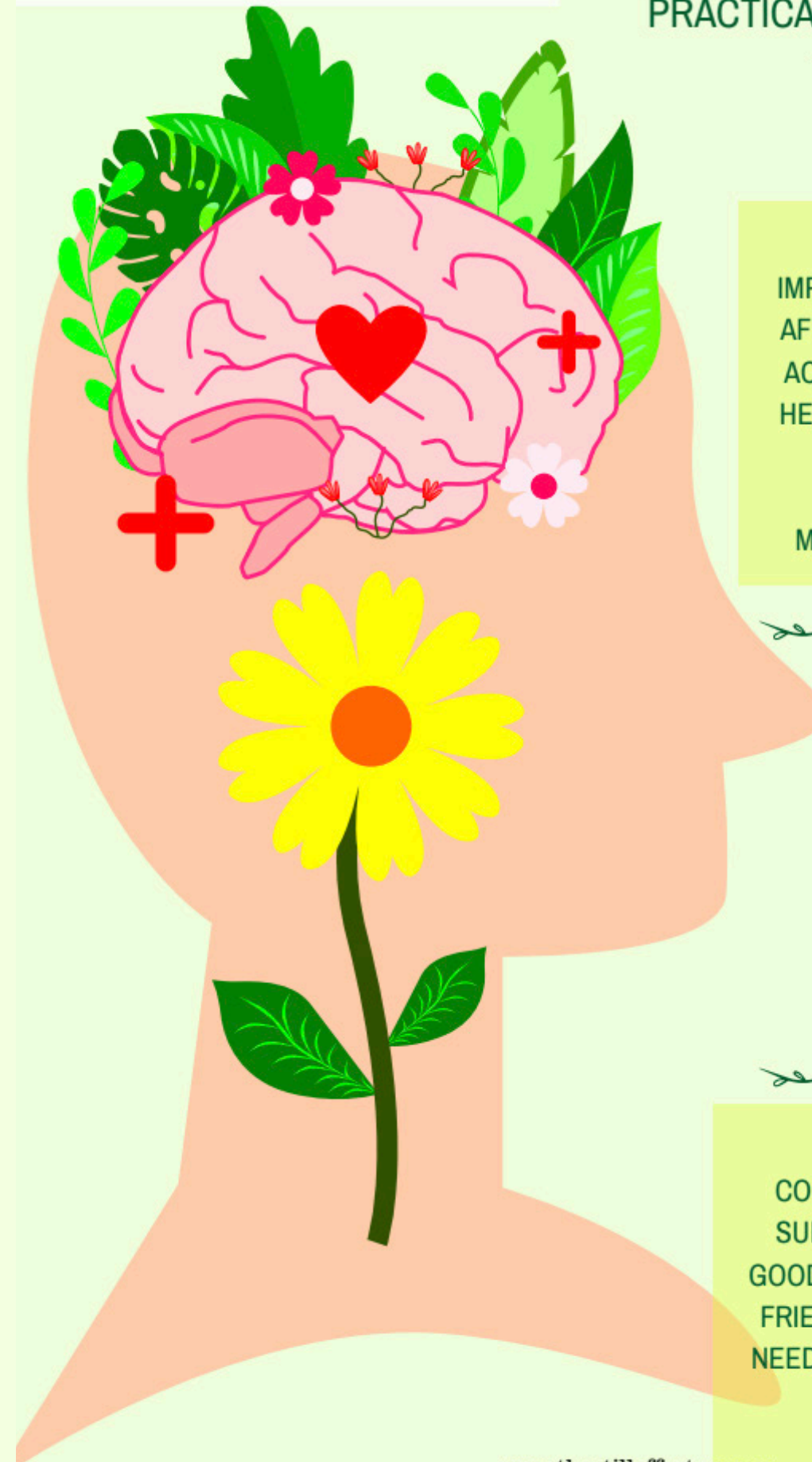
## TAKING CARE OF YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

### PRACTICAL TIPS FOR EVERYDAY WELL-BEING

MENTAL HEALTH IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS PHYSICAL HEALTH. IT AFFECTS HOW WE THINK, FEEL, AND ACT. TAKING CARE OF OUR MENTAL HEALTH IS ESSENTIAL FOR OVERALL WELL-BEING. HERE ARE SOME PRACTICAL TIPS TO HELP YOU MAINTAIN GOOD MENTAL HEALTH.

PRACTICE SELF-CARE. TAKE TIME TO DO THINGS THAT YOU ENJOY, SUCH AS READING A BOOK, TAKING A WALK, OR HAVING A RELAXING BATH. PRIORITIZING SELF-CARE CAN HELP REDUCE STRESS AND IMPROVE MOOD.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS. HAVING A SUPPORT SYSTEM IS CRUCIAL FOR GOOD MENTAL HEALTH. REACH OUT TO FRIENDS OR A PROFESSIONAL IF YOU NEED TO TALK OR RECEIVE GUIDANCE.



[www.thestilleffect.com.au](http://www.thestilleffect.com.au)



# INTERNSHIPS

CREATE has developed an Internship Program to support young people in their job readiness journey. Young people have voiced concerns about feeling a lack of confidence to enter the workforce and often don't have the necessary skills that equip them to succeed in a work environment. The Internship Program is funded by Hollard Insurance and the Internship offered to young people will provide 3-6 months on the job training with access to a suite of CREATE internal staff training.

A huge thank you to our Young Consultants who are part of the Internship Reference Group, your hard work has really paid off!

*"It's great being on the Reference Group. There is so much work in the background to get a project like this up and running. It's cool listening to everyone's ideas. It's helped me reconnect with CREATE."*

Ann, Young Consultant.

## SORTLI

You asked for more videos on our Sortli app and we have provided. Our amazing Young Consultant, Raymond, used his voice and his presentation skills to record some new Sortli videos for us.

Check out more on the Sortli app.

The Sortli app is your guide to becoming an adult, designed by young people, for young people transitioning from out-of-home care. Check out the latest new features to make getting sorted for Adulthood even easier!

**sortli**



iOS  
Download the App Now

Android  
Download the App Now

# ViA Conference

## Are you aged between 14 – 25 years with a care experience?

Here is your opportunity to meet other young people with a care experience from around Australia, have new experiences in the wonderful city of Adelaide and to stand up and have your say! Join us and other young people with a care experience from around across Australia to discuss the care system's BIG issues with carers, workers and care sector leaders AND come up with what needs to change to make things better. We can't do this without your experience and knowledge!

**Voices in Action 2024**  
**Thursday 21 to Saturday 23 March 2024**  
**Adelaide Showgrounds**

### Program Highlights include:

- International speakers
- Presentations and workshops by young leaders
- Interactive creative workshops

## Young People quotes from 2022 Voices in Action Conference:

**"This was a great experience!"**

**"I feel very grateful to hear what these people have to say. Definitely remarkable people"**

**"Thank you everyone for holding such a great conference with lots to think about and take on board."**

**"As someone who was separated from my siblings in care I find this very important"**





# MEET TARA

Meet one of our current Influencing Committee Young Person Representatives, Tara.

## About me:

I'm the Young Person Representative on CREATE's Influencing Committee, I also regularly do Youth Advisory Groups and CREATE Your Future as well as helping CREATE on interview panels to recruit new staff.

Recently, I was on a Share and Learn Panel for the new Department for Education Children and Young People with the help of CREATE.

## What do I do:

I am a 19 year old Tasmanian TAFE student who loves the marine environment and advocacy. I am currently studying for my Certificate II in Marine Studies.

## I love working with CREATE because:

I love working with CREATE because it gives me the amazing opportunity to advocate for change in the care sector, and also allows me to meet so many other incredible young people who have also had a care experience.

## What do I do in my own time:

In my free time I like to do pretty much anything that involves the water, such as scuba diving, snorkeling or freediving (I especially like it when I get to see sharks!).

## Something wacky about myself:

A wacky fact about me is that I think sharks are one of the cutest animals.



# CREATE MATES

**CREATE Mate: Nicole Hucks,  
Northern Territory Children's  
Commissioner**

## Tell us about yourself! What's your role?

As Children's Commissioner for the Northern Territory, my job is to listen to young people in the Territory and make sure they have everything they need to grow up healthy and happy. Young people have rights and their voices should be heard!

## Why are you a CREATE Mate?

I love the way CREATE works with young people to make sure their needs and voices are at the centre of all the work it does. Here in the Territory I make sure to pay attention to CREATE Youth Advisory Groups and the other great events CREATE holds throughout the year to find out ways I can improve systems for children in care.

**What's something you're passionate about in the care sector? What's something you're proud of?**

Siblings being placed together is something I focus on in the work I do. Where siblings can't be placed together I take an interest in the care planning for them to ensure that they can see, connect and maintain contact with each other. The care experience can be difficult and isolating. Not being placed with your siblings and/or in the care of your own family is hard.

I am always encouraged when I see and hear from carers who are going above and beyond to facilitate visits between siblings, or for children in their care with their parents and extended family. This is what caring for kids should be about. Everyone in a child's life is important.

## Everyone's a bit wacky in their own way? What's a fun fact about you?

I have a crazy busy life juggling a demanding job, being a mum to my 3 and 5 year old daughters and meeting my broader family and community responsibilities. For my self-care, I take time out and make resin earrings, and listen to true crime podcasts!

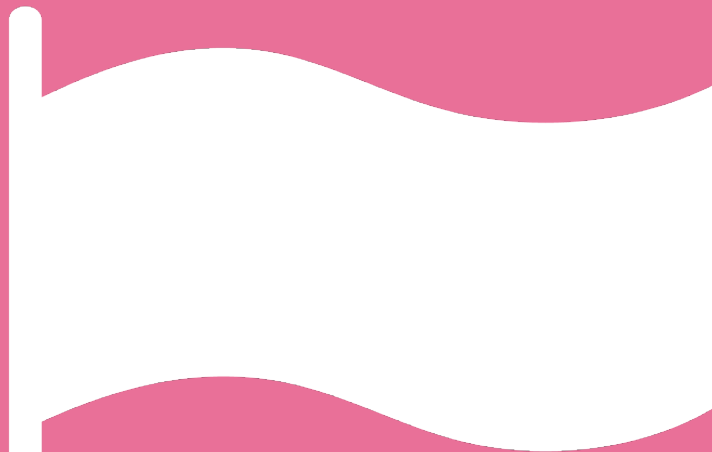




# THE FUN ZONE **WIN!**

## CHALLENGE

1. Write your own Christmas story.
2. Design a colouring in competition for the next under 12s clubCREATE magazine.
3. Design a flag that represents you.



## SMILEY SURVEY

Fill in this survey to go in the draw for prizes



All challenge and competition entries go in the draw to WIN!

To enter this competition:

1. Send your entry via email to [clubCREATE@create.org.au](mailto:clubCREATE@create.org.au)
  2. Send us a message on Instagram @CREATEfnd or Facebook /CREATEfnd
  3. Enter on our website at [www.create.org.au/competitions](http://www.create.org.au/competitions)
  4. Post it back to us free of charge! Send to Reply Paid 87694 SPRING HILL QLD 4004
- Entries close 24 January 2024. Make sure you include your name and age, and if you know it your clubCREATE ID number. GOOD LUCK!

## COMPETITION

Write or draw the fun things you have done in the holidays.

## COLOURING COMPETITION

Source: Annie Harvey The Still Effect.



In each section draw/colour something that helps you.

[www.thestilleffect.com.au](http://www.thestilleffect.com.au)

All challenge and competition entries go in the draw to WIN!

To enter this competition:

1. Send your entry via email to [clubCREATE@create.org.au](mailto:clubCREATE@create.org.au)
  2. Send us a message on Instagram @CREATEfnd or Facebook /CREATEfnd
  3. Enter on our website at [www.create.org.au/competitions](http://www.create.org.au/competitions)
  4. Post it back to us free of charge! Send to Reply Paid 87694 SPRING HILL QLD 4004
- Entries close 24 January 2024. Make sure you include your name and age, and if you know it your clubCREATE ID number. GOOD LUCK!



# ACT ROUND UP

What's been happening?

The CREATE in ACT team have had a great time with current and new clubCREATE members. We had some new members embark on their Speak Up journey showing what passionate and determined Young Consultants they are going to become. Our clubCREATE members have also been 'Creating their Crib' as part of our CREATE Your Future program.



At caseworker training sessions we have been able to pass on feedback from YAGs and discussions with young people about what makes a great caseworker and we have also had some great insight from our members for our Health and Wellbeing consultations. If you are aged 14-17 and want to do a consultation and receive a \$25 voucher, get in touch.

We have been busy planning a heap of fun, including some exciting Christmas parties. Keep an eye out for what's coming up!

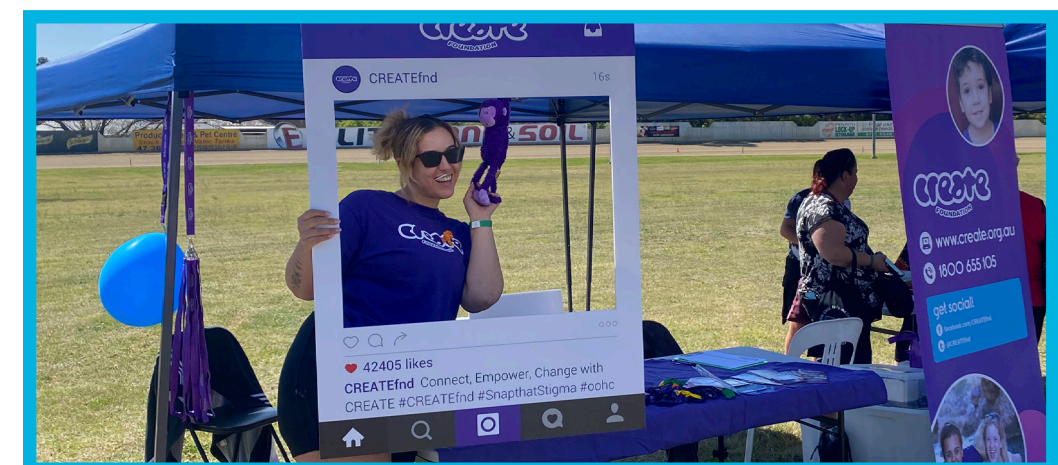
# NSW ROUND UP

What's been happening?

The CREATE in NSW Community have had a wicked few months packed with YAGs, Speak Ups, Young Consultant opportunities, and a bunch of fun in between. We had some Young Consultants advocating across all levels including a meeting with NSW's Minister for Families and Communities, Minister Kate Washington, sitting on Domestic Violence Panels, and two guest lectures at University of NSW and University of Wollongong. Our Young Consultants provided the Minister and students with perspective and insight from lived experience. An adventure they will never forget!



At our YAGs, you spoke and we heard you! We heard about what makes a great caseworker, the importance of identifying positive relationships and the impact of "where we start" for Child Protection Week. Oh, did we mention that we did all of this whilst enjoying Timezone, go-karting and pizza! The next few months are packed with programs and events so get in touch.





# NT ROUND UP

What's been happening?

CREATE in the NT have been busy over the last few months of the beautiful dry season with lots of outdoor YAGs, Connection Events and engagement activities. We got to play mini golf and watch the sunset from the top of the ferris wheel on Fisherman's Wharf. We held a Connection Event with the Office of the Children's Commissioner, Larrakia Nation, Hoops 4 Health, NAPCAN (and too many others to mention!) for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. Larrakia Elder Aunty June performed her story Witladla with her handmade puppet. There was basketball, face painting and children even got to decorate biscuits to celebrate the day. Sam and Young Consultant Alicia attended the Youth Concert organised by our friend DJ Charly's Dream Impact Inspire. Cali Swag District from the US performed their hit "Teach me how to Dougie" but local talent Riley P was definitely the crowd favourite!!

No need to have FOMO cause we have plenty more coming up. Call 08 8945 993 or email [nt@create.org.au](mailto:nt@create.org.au) if you are keen to come along.



## Meet Tenneil

Hello! My name is Tenneil, I'm the new Engagement and Administration Facilitator here in Darwin! I bring my own lived experience of growing up in care. Some of you may even recognise me from YAGs, SUPs, and Connection Events or from the CREATE Conference at the Melbourne Zoo! I am passionate about making sure the voices of children and young people with a care experience are represented and their voices heard! Outside of CREATE I like spending time with my 4 year old Aliyah. We love going to dance class, riding our bikes and visiting the park or beach! I can't wait to meet you all!

# QLD ROUND UP

What's been happening?

We held a Cultural Connection Event at Jellurgal Aboriginal Cultural Centre. Everyone was treated to a Walkabout and a picnic at the beach. We built sandcastles, played soccer and swam. We held a Connection Event at Caboolture Mini Golf and Bowling and had a fantastic time with 50 carers, children and young people.

For our Young Consultants, it was equally busy. They worked very hard in the last few months and participated in over 24 different speaking opportunities. Our YCs attended the Ministerial Round Table for the Residential Care review. We held YAGs and were able to capture the views of young people around the topics of Housing, NDIS, Residential Care, Accessibility Issues and T2A.



For QLD Child Protection Week, we held a Winter Wonderland Themed Fancy-Dress party in Brisbane. We also held an online games night that included trivia, games, meme creating and more! In Cairns, we hosted a wonderful Sunset Celebration at Wharf One café. Polly dressed up like a banana and facilitated several activities including bingo and trivia. Minister Craig Crawford and the Principal Commissioner attended both events and presented inspiring speeches, promising to listen and to make themselves available to hear the voices of young people.



# SA ROUND UP

What's been happening?

Welcoming our newest Program Facilitator, Angela, who has joined us with years of experience in the social and community sector over in Sydney. CREATE partnered with Kindred Australia, Adelaide Festival Centre and Junction Australia for the 2023 Child and Youth Arts and Culture Forum. A room full of enthusiastic and engaged participants from the social and arts sector coming together. Our Young Consultants shone on stage, bravely sharing their stories of living in out-of-home care and how arts and culture was, at times, a saving grace for them when facing the challenges of instable living.



The SA team and our CEO, Jacqui, attended the SA Child Protection Awards at the Adelaide Oval. What an engaging and heart warming event which acknowledged the tireless work of sector workers, foster carers and our incredible CYP which make our jobs all worthwhile. CREATE sponsored the Positive Impact Award which was won by some well deserving carers. CREATE in SA were grateful to be able to visit our beautiful Limestone Coast.

After back-to-back meetings with the wonderful providers in the OOH sector for the region, we held a sports themed Connection Event at the newly built Wulanda Recreation Centre. Over 20 children, young people and carers attended the event and participated in futsal, badminton, volleyball, and a variety of giant board games! We had the opportunity to talk to a few of the youth of Mount Gambier about all things regional - and we received a large amount of feedback! This thriving conversation ended with some delicious lunch and a good hour at FlipOut to bounce out all the energy!



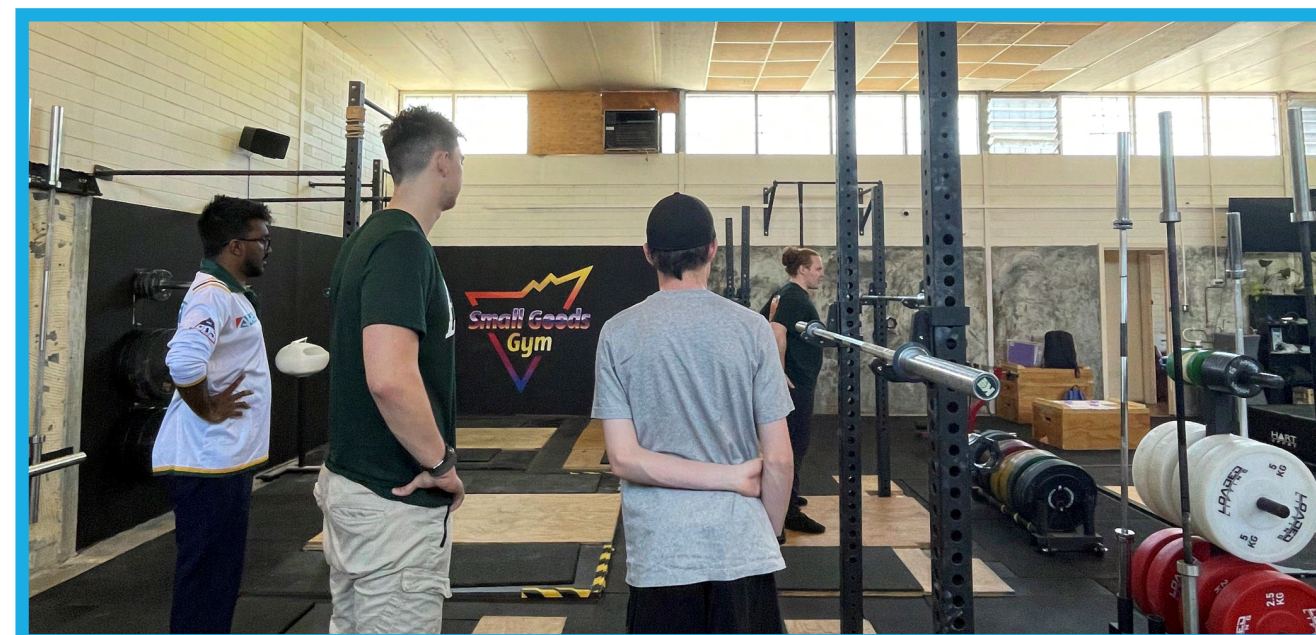
# WA ROUND UP

What's been happening?

In the last few months, CREATE in WA has been all about fun, growth, and making connections that matter! We went down to Bunbury and connected with awesome young people as we pat some cute baby animals! Our online Speak Up events gave us the chance to connect and talk all about advocacy in the out-of-home care space. We also pumped up the energy with our CREATE Your Future Legit Wellbeing workshop hosted at Small Goods Gym.

And guess what? We ended the year with a splash at our Christmas event at Perth Aqua Park. It was a total blast to see so many smiling faces having fun together and celebrating the awesome community we have in WA.

Stay tuned because CREATE in WA has a bunch of fun stuff planned to welcome in 2024 including Connection Events, regional trips, and more!





# VIC ROUND UP

What's been happening?

**We certainly got spoiled with the weather for our Zoo Connection Event!**

Young people, their families and carers gathered at Melbourne Zoo along with CREATE staff on a day that was sunny and bright. After a long cold winter we all enjoyed the warm spell and being outside. Snacks were enjoyed under the pergola, the colouring-in activities were fun, and the post-it feedback wall gave everyone a chance to let us know what they liked the most. All the comments pointed to people having a great time, and enjoying meeting and making connections with others. The lions were also a hit! No photos though because they were very shy lions when the photographer was there. The elephants and meerkats though were very active and weren't afraid of the camera!

Other than having fun with the animals, the Victorian team have been super busy with CREATE Your Future, Worker Training, YEAG, RIMAG and attending the OzChild Network event. We also said a sad goodbye to long term staff member Pat, who we farewelled with an afternoon tea at our North Melbourne office with staff and young people in attendance. Good luck Pat!



# TAS ROUND UP

What's been happening?

**During Child Protection Week we attended a morning tea at Child Safety with YC Lara. Our presentation was a highlight of the morning, thank you to all of the young people who were involved. We held Speak Up in Hobart, with a great turnout of young people. We now have some new Young Consultants ready to start helping us out at events and advocating for positive change within the care system. The CREATE Team attended the National Foster Carers conference in Hobart. We were joined by our CEO, Jacqui, and National Advocacy and Influencing Manager, Imogen. Throughout the conference we spoke to lots of carers about the wonderful things CREATE has to offer all around**



**Our team headed to the North West of TAS to hold a Connection Event at Tazmazia and CREATE Your Future workshop in Devonport. Over the past couple of months YC Tara has been involved in a live panel discussion about Education and also attended a National Youth Engagement Strategy Meeting with YC Ray. Recently Ray has also been accepted into the Children and Young Persons Advisory Panel with the Department of Health. We are very proud of these young people and thank them for their amazing efforts to ensure young people with a care experience have their voices heard.**

**Recently we welcomed a new staff member to our TAS team, Paula. Paula comes to us with lots of experience working with young people and has settled into our team**



# YOU ROCK!

## EDITION 3 2023 WINNERS

**OUR COMP WINNERS  
FROM LAST MAG ARE**  
(DRUMROLL PLEASE!):

**Spot Gus:**

Levi - SA  
Olivia - SA

**Find-a-word**

Tyson - SA

CONGRATULATIONS! WE HOPE  
YOU ENJOY YOUR PRIZES!



CREATE Foundation Limited  
National Office  
Level 6, 80 George Street  
Parramatta NSW 2150  
Tel 1800 655 105  
ABN 69 088 075 058

If you do not wish to receive newsletters and program information from CREATE Foundation please email [clubcreate@create.org.au](mailto:clubcreate@create.org.au) or phone CREATE on (07) 3062 4860 to have your address removed from the mailing list.

## HOW TO STAY CONNECTED WITH CREATE

If you want to attend awesome events with CREATE make sure you are a clubCREATE member so you can automatically receive invitations and information. Other ways to contact CREATE:

1. Become a clubCREATE member and join up at [www.create.org.au](http://www.create.org.au)
2. Call your local CREATE office on 1800 655 105 and talk to one of the team about what's
3. coming up.
4. If you are already a clubCREATE member – make sure your clubCREATE membership details are up-to-date.
5. Visit [www.create.org.au](http://www.create.org.au) to find out more about how we can support you.