

What is Finding Families?

Finding Families is an initiative to help children and young people move from residential care into family-based placements, where they can thrive and develop a strong sense of belonging and identity.

Working alongside case managers and residential care staff, the Finding Families team connects directly with children and young people, their families and other people of significance, to identify and establish safe, secure family-based placements within their extended family, kin and community networks.

If no options can be found within those networks, the Finding Families team may then expand its search into the broader community – including registered foster carers.

Who is delivering Finding Families?

A team of specialist staff within the Department for Child Protection (DCP) are dedicated to Finding Families, including two members of the team who come from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds to work specifically with children and young people from multicultural families.

KWY Aboriginal Corporation are also putting in place a dedicated team to focus on Finding Families for Aboriginal children and young people in residential care.

All Finding Families staff work closely with each child and young person's case manager and residential care staff, as well as listening closely to the child and young person's wishes and desires in developing options and establishing family-based placements.

How can you contribute to Finding Families?

Every child and young person deserves to live in a family home, to feel connected to that family and to be a part of everyday community life. Wherever possible, the placements established through Finding Families will be with a person or family known to, or related to, that child or young person.

For some children and young people, however, this is not possible. In these cases, nurturing, carefully matched foster families can provide a wonderful alternative.

If you are interested in providing a loving and stable home to a child or young person who is currently living in residential care, or would just like to know more about finding Families the team can be contacted at

DCPfindingfamiliesenquires@sa.gov.au