

## How we know we are on track

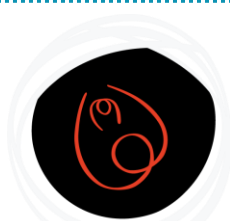
DCP has implemented actions to better support Aboriginal children, young people and families in contact with the child protection system. Here are some of the key performance measures as at end June 2020:

More than doubled the percentage of Aboriginal children and young people in care with and Aboriginal Cultural Identity Support Tool

**56.5%** of children and young people had an approved and complete ACIST (up from 20.2%)



Increased the number of Aboriginal children and young people placed in accordance with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Placement Principle



An additional **127** children and young people



Commenced Family Group Conferencing with an emphasis on cultural safety and responsiveness for Aboriginal families

**24** Aboriginal families referred  
**6** conferences held

Increased procurement from Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations



**6.3%** of all procurement was from Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (Target 3%)

Increased the number of Aboriginal employees

An additional **10** Aboriginal employees



Recruited 9 Aboriginal trainees and an Aboriginal Practice Lead



## ABORIGINAL ACTION PLAN 2019-20

### End of year report



Government of South Australia  
Department for Child Protection

#### 2019-20 HIGHLIGHTS

#### A message from the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director, Aboriginal Practice

Featuring the five core elements of the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle – Prevention, Partnership, Placement, Participation and Connection – as a guiding framework for action, our first Aboriginal Action Plan was launched in July 2019.

This end of year report shares some of the year's highlights and achievements under the Plan.

While recognising that there is more work to be done, we are very proud of the work the department has undertaken to better support Aboriginal children and young people in care.

We are confident that we can continue to implement active efforts across the department, to see improved outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people.

**Fiona Ward**  
Deputy Chief Executive

**Tracy Rigney**  
Director, Aboriginal Practice



Formed an **Expert Aboriginal Child Protection Advisory Committee** to assist in identifying practical ways to support full implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle.

Engaged three Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to deliver a new \$3 million program to provide specialised support to **kinship carers of Aboriginal children**.



Partnered with, and provided financial support to **Reconciliation South Australia** and the **Family Matters SA Working Group**

Partnered with SNAICC to deliver workshops to increase understanding and implementation of the **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle** (for DCP and NGO staff)






Updated our client management system (C3MS) to include all **South Australian Aboriginal Nations** to enable caseworks to more accurately reflect a child or young person's Aboriginal identity

Embedded **Aboriginal service provision requirements** across service agreements to increase cultural safety and responsiveness



Developed and implemented our first **Reconciliation Action Plan**



Engaged and focused across government effort to deliver **systems change** through the Portfolio Management Board – through the establishment of the **Family Matters Subcommittee**

Focus area	Action	Status
<b>Prevention</b> 	Co-design and trial an Intensive Family Preservation Service in the Western suburbs delivered by an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation	✓
	Embed Aboriginal Service Provision requirements across service agreements to increase cultural safety and responsiveness	✓
	Engage and focus across government effort to deliver systems change through the Portfolio Management Board and system redesign taskforce	✓
	Prioritise the identification of Aboriginal children with disability and significant developmental delay and support access to appropriate services	✓
	Develop and implement guidelines for DCP Legal Services and complaints staff to support culturally safe and responsive client contact	✓
	Partner with the Courts Administration Authority and the Office of the Guardian for Children and Young People to develop a cultural awareness program for judges and magistrates	✓
<b>Partnership</b> 	Increase Aboriginal employment from 4.8% to 5.5% (towards 10%)	→
	Recruit an Aboriginal Practice Lead	✓
	Recruit 10 Aboriginal trainees	→
	Host two 2-day state forums for all Aboriginal staff to engage on key issues, practice and policy	✓
	Increase procurement from Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations from 0.5% to 3% of spending	✓
	Develop a procurement plan for a trial of Aboriginal kinship carer supports provided by Aboriginal organisations	✓
	Establish an independent expert Aboriginal advisory committee	✓
	Actively engage with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations in each region	✓
<b>Placement</b> 	Continue to partner with Reconciliation SA, SA NAIDOC Committee and the Family Matters campaign	✓
	Ensure a genogram extending at least 3 generations has been developed for all new children in out of home care within 3 months of entry	→
	Update C3MS to include all South Australian Aboriginal language groups to enable caseworkers to more accurately reflect a child or young person's Aboriginal identity	✓
	Increase the percentage of Aboriginal children and young people placed in accordance with the placement hierarchy from 65% to 70%	→
	Embed the Winangay Aboriginal Kinship Carer Assessment Tool and implement as a key practice focus	✓
	Engage an Aboriginal organisation to design and deliver a specialised residential care model for Aboriginal young people	✓
	Develop an Aboriginal specific NDIA pre-planning tool to support access to culturally responsive disability services	✓

✓ Activity complete   → To be continued in 2020-21   ✗ Not progressed

Focus area	Action	Status
<b>Participation</b> 	Set up and commission Family Group Conferencing with an emphasis on cultural safety and responsiveness for Aboriginal families	✓
	Develop and implement a Child and Youth Engagement Strategy, involving Aboriginal children and young people	✓
	Develop a practice approach to enhance family-led decision making with an emphasis on cultural safety and responsiveness for Aboriginal families	✓
	Trial a therapist clinic to support Aboriginal kinship carers	✓
	Implement a 4-step training program (Footprint) for non-Aboriginal staff to undertake an Aboriginal cultural capability learning journey	✓
	Review and update the Psychological Services Guidelines for working with Aboriginal children, young people and families to improve engagement	✓
	Partner with SNAICC to deliver workshops to DCP staff to increase understanding and implementation of the Principle	✓
<b>Connection</b> 	Increase the use of the Aboriginal Cultural Identity Support Tool for Aboriginal children in care from 20.2% to 40% (towards 100%)	✓
	Where English is a second language for an Aboriginal child or young person, ensure an appropriate Aboriginal language interpreter is present for discussions relating to Viewpoint questionnaires	✓
	Embed the commitment to the Buthera Agreement in the State Government's Aboriginal Affairs Action Plan	✓
	Develop and implement the first DCP Reconciliation Action Plan	✓
	Support the SNAICC National Conference and support DCP leaders and staff to attend.	✓

✓ Activity complete   → To be continued in 2020-21   ✗ Not progressed