

ABORIGINAL ACTION PLAN

2021-22



Government of South Australia
Department for Child Protection



IDENTIFICATION

Ensuring that Aboriginal children are identified at the earliest possible point of child protection involvement

We will:

1.01 Launch a digital Aboriginal Cultural Sensitivity Statement for the C3MS home page



PREVENTION

Aboriginal families are actively supported to access culturally responsive supports to mitigate the need for statutory intervention

We will:

2.01 Co-lead the development of Safe and Supported: National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021–2031, including a targeted implementation plan and Aboriginal-specific governance structures for Aboriginal children and families

2.02 Work across government to finalise a governance structure and a forward work plan to support delivery of Target 12 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap

2.03 Launch a Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan

2.04 Sponsor Reconciliation SA's annual Apology and National Reconciliation Week Breakfasts

2.05 Provide resourcing to the Family Matters campaign and coordinate South Australian Government input into the Family Matters Report 2021

2.06 Coordinate the South Australian Government input into SNAICC's annual Aboriginal Child Placement Principle baseline reporting



PARTNERSHIP

Aboriginal people, communities and organisations lead the delivery of child protection services and practice for Aboriginal children and families

We will:

3.01 Provide support to SNAICC to develop options for an SA peak body representing the interests of Aboriginal children and young people

3.02 Improve service provision, collaboration and communication across the NPY tristate region

- Finalise an MoU between SA, WA, NT and NPY Women's Council
- Meet at least twice to progress a tailored and integrated cross-border approach to child protection

3.03 Implement the Aboriginal Employment Strategy 2019-22

- Increase the number of Aboriginal staff by 10%
- Increase the percentage of staff that have completed steps 1-4 of the Aboriginal Cultural Footprint program

3.04 Strengthen employment pathways for Aboriginal people within the Legal Services directorate

- Promote the opportunity for Aboriginal legal students to undertake legal training in DCP

- Create an Aboriginal-identified position for an administrative cadetship in the information sharing space

3.05 Secure traineeships for Aboriginal young people in care through the Aboriginal Public Sector Traineeship Program

3.06 Develop a culturally appropriate referral pathway for Aboriginal children and young people to obtain advice on civil claims

3.07 Partner with Reconciliation SA to finalise a documentary about Aboriginal experiences of the child protection system and reconciliation

PLACEMENT

Prioritising placement in care in accordance with the placement hierarchy

We will:

4.01 Work with the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People to trial a model of local level Aboriginal family care panels

4.02 Explore opportunities to recognise additional Aboriginal gazetted organisations

4.03 Partner with NPY Women's Council to pilot a program of support for kinship carers in the APY Lands

4.04 Provide culturally responsive assessment, training and support services for kinship carers of Aboriginal children

- Identify best practice through 2-year pilot program with ACCOs
- Establish a formal community of practice relating to support for kinship carers of Aboriginal children
- Increase the proportion of Aboriginal children in kinship care who are supported by an ACCO

4.05 Include a specific focus on the needs of Aboriginal children in the re/commissioning of all services, including post care support and the post-residential care pilot program

4.06 Implement the Winangay Carer Review Tool across all kinship care programs

PARTICIPATION

Ensuring the participation of Aboriginal children and families in child protection decision making

We will:

5.01 Implement the Family Led Decision Making Framework, with a focus on Aboriginal families including

- Updates to the Manual of Practice
- Communications strategy
- Development and roll-out of workplace learning sessions

5.02 Increase referrals to the Aboriginal-led family group conferencing service

5.03 Privilege the voices of Aboriginal children and young people in care

- Develop options for culturally responsive youth engagement approaches to be implemented through the Child and Youth Engagement Strategy
- Ensure a specific focus on the voice and influence of Aboriginal children and young people through the Children and Young People Questionnaire Project

5.04 Make it easier for Aboriginal people to seek historical records from the department

- Finalise an MoU with Nunkuwarrin Yunti
- Hold a yarning session with Nunkuwarrin Yunti and DCP Legal Services staff to strengthen networks and facilitate two-way learning

5.05 Establish partnerships between the Disability and Development Program and Principal Aboriginal Consultants and ACCOs to strengthen

- o Identification of Aboriginal children with disability and developmental delay
- o Supports provided to carers of Aboriginal with developmental delay

5.06 Progress commitments under the Buthera Agreement

- o Finalisation of the Narungga cultural protocols
- o Establishment of formal regional engagement processes with offices on Narungga Country
- o Present to at least one NNAC Board meeting (including information about the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle)

5.07 Develop and distribute resources for Aboriginal carers and carers of Aboriginal children and young people (through the DCP Carer Partnership Program)

CONNECTION

Maintaining and supporting connections to family, community, culture and country

We will:

6.01 Provide Aboriginal young people in residential care with the opportunity to participate in cultural camps that strengthen their connection to Country

6.02 Design a digital Aboriginal Children and Young People Storytelling Portal and accompanying training package

6.03 Develop capacity to report on key practice indicators for work with Aboriginal families and children, including finalisation of the National Data Improvement Plan

