



# INFORMATION PACK: FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARERS TRANSFERRING TO NBAC

NARANG BIR-RONG ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Narang Bir-rong Aboriginal Corporation would like to Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land that we work on and all come from.

We pay our respects to the Ancestors, Elders past, present and future generations and to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will always hold a spiritual belonging and connection with this country and remain the Traditional Owners and first peoples of this land.

We also acknowledge the grave injustices that occurred for our people due to past government policies and those who were forever affected by forcible removal. We acknowledge the pain the Stolen Generations suffered and recognise those who will never make it home.

We dedicate our work to them to ensure we never again have our children wrongly removed and disconnected from their family, their culture and their rightful links to their identity.

# OUR VALUES



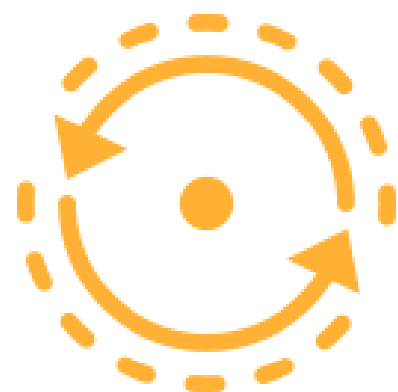
## CONNECTIONS

We honour connections with family, culture and Country.



## EMPOWERMENT

We empower all those in our community through education.



## CONSISTENCY

We provide consistency of care and remain a safe refuge, always



## BELONGING

We strive to build security and true belonging in our children



## CONFIDENTIALITY

We ensure confidentiality to all those in our community

# WHAT DOES TRANSFERRING MEAN FOR ME?

You may have been recently asked by your caseworker at Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) if you would consider transferring to an Aboriginal Community Controlled organisation.

Or, you have identified yourself that you want the children in your care to be managed by an Aboriginal Service.

## **But what does this mean?**

This means that you currently care for a child or children through DCJ who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and, therefore have been prioritized as requiring culturally appropriate support and guidance from an Aboriginal service, worker and management team.

The aim, over time, is for all Aboriginal and TSI children in care to be supported by Aboriginal-managed agencies with a commitment to advancing Aboriginal self-management and self-determination for Aboriginal people. Having Aboriginal Children Case Managed by Aboriginal agencies empowers Aboriginal communities to make decisions and provide services that meet the best interests of their children, now and in the future. The choice of agency is up to you, the child's carer, and we at NBAC believe in the power of self-determination for our people.

Narang Bir-rong Aboriginal Corporation (NBAC) has been servicing the Greater Western Sydney Blue Mountains region for 11 years.

All staff at NBAC are Aboriginal and we are passionate about providing support and quality care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children in Out of Home Care and their carer's.





# WHAT DOES A TRANSFER INVOLVE?

Do not worry, when transferring to NBAC you will not have to take part in a full assessment process, just a review of your original assessment. This takes about about an hour, as we understand your time is valuable.

You will be required to fill in an application form, consent to transfer form and provide an updated medical check. In the background NBAC will also commence updated police and community services checks for your household and for this you will only be required to provide a copy of your photo identification.

The rest of the work for the transfer is completed by our recruitment team in the background, so you don't need to worry about anything else.

Once approved to transfer to NBAC we will hold a transfer meeting with your team from DCJ. From then you will receive monthly home visits from your allocated Caseworker, 24/7 on call support, and additional support from the Casework Assistant team. Our team will adhere to the plans and supports that are in already in place such as medical or educational assistance.

We believe that all of our families and children have the right to access quality and culturally safe services designed for the care and support of Aboriginal and TSI children and young people necessary for our children to thrive and succeed.



# WHY SHOULD I TRANSFER?



The benefits of transferring to NBAC, will far outweigh the hassle of transferring agencies. NBAC Aboriginal caseworkers are supported by Aboriginal Managers and a team of Aboriginal Casework Assistants, therefore there will always be someone there to help. We have a 24 hour help line for casework support and a team of specialised services which include the Cultural Care Worker and the Programs Assistant who runs the Leaving Care and After Care programs for Children aged 16 and over, supporting these young people to achieve independence in life skills, education and employment. We also give our carers access to online training modules and support groups.

## **Why do I need to transfer?**

Please do not be concerned if you have been flagged to transfer to NBAC. Carers have been transferring from DCJ for a number of years to Aboriginal Agencies. The NSW Government aims to transition most Aboriginal Children in care to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) to ensure all Aboriginal children are case managed by Aboriginal services. The transition of services is an important step in achieving self-determination for Aboriginal communities and will provide better outcomes for vulnerable Aboriginal children and young people. At NBAC we believe in raising the next generation of our children strong, with cultural guidance and knowledge, leading to better outcomes for the children in your care.

## **What will be different?**

Hopefully, transferring to NBAC will be seamless with minimal disruption to you or the children in your care. We uphold all of the agreements made in the current care plan and will retain all services in place for the children. However, our management team work closely with our frontline staff and carers, you will experience a service that is tailored to your needs, with cultural support and guidance in every aspect of the children's life.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Will my payment change?**

Absolutely not, we pay at the same standard rates as DCJ. We also pay for the same services that have been agreed upon in your child's case plan, such as childcare (minus CCS), all medical treatments and interventions as required: such as dental, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physiotherapy for the children, if required. Our payment also falls on the same week as you have been receiving.

## **Will I still have a caseworker?**

Yes, you and the children in your care will be allocated your own caseworker, who will provide you with culturally appropriate guidance and support. Your caseworker will visit you and the children at least monthly. We do not believe you walk your foster care journey alone and it takes a village to raise a child.

## **What if I am not Aboriginal, but the children in my care are?**

This is actually one of the really important reasons why you might consider transferring to an Aboriginal service. Your Aboriginal caseworker can help you to connect with and support the children in your care's culture. We can talk to you about the child's language group and provide you with further information to share and learn with the child in your care, this is called their cultural support plan.



# OUR PROGRAMS

**Out-of-Home Care Casework and Carer Support**

**Out-of-Home Care Specialised Support Services**

**Leaving and After-Care Support**

**Cultural Connections**

**Carer Training and Development**



We are more than happy to discuss any further questions directly.

Our staff are friendly and approachable so please feel free to contact an NBAC recruitment worker on (02) 4761 4000 with any questions or concerns.

[www.narangbirrong.org.au](http://www.narangbirrong.org.au)





