



KINSHIP CARE

Caring for our future.

Anchor 

ABOUT KINSHIP CARE

Kinship Care is the care provided to a child or young person by a family member, close family friend, or significant person in the child's community.

When a child/ren is unable to live with their biological parents, kinship care is the preferred option because it can help preserve the child's relationship with their family of origin. It can also assist to maintain stability and continuity in the child's life.

The child/ren can often have experienced trauma, and parenting can be a challenge. Kinship carers demonstrate a strong commitment and dedication to the child or young person in their care.

It is the primary role of the Anchor Case Manager to support kinship carers and their families in their care of the child/ren or young person.

If you need support, you can contact us on 03 8761 9040 or kinshipcare@anchor.org.au.

ANCHOR KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM

Anchor is an independent, not-for-profit organisation which has been servicing our community in the Outer East for over 40 years. During that time, Anchor has established itself as a reputable Out of Home Care provider offering support, information, and referral pathways for kinship carers.

The Anchor Kinship Care team is comprised of passionate and dedicated professionals, whose primary focus is the welfare of the child/ren and providing support to their kinship carers.

Anchor is a smaller organisation with a big impact in the community, and works hard to achieve better outcomes for kinship families.

ANCHOR KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM

Anchor kinship care is comprised of two primary programs:

Case Contracting

The Case Contracting team supports children who are subject to statutory court orders and their carers. Case contracting offers longer term support up until the child turns 18 years of age.

First Supports

This program is the starting point to the carer journey for newly established placements with referrals submitted from Department of Families, Fairness & Housing (DFFH - formerly DHHS). The team facilitates a comprehensive assessment, which is a formal process to assist in identifying the carer's support needs. Anchor is able to remain involved with the carer in First Supports placements for up to 12 months.

Anchor also offer a range of services to support our kinship carers in all our programs. This includes:

- **Carer portal** - connect with other Anchor carers
- **Information and advice consultations** - With a combined 64 years experience in kinship care, Anchor offer a range of advice, referrals and information to support to carers.
- **Carer KAfe** - Anchor can provide you with details regarding Carer KAfe training and support groups.

ANCHOR AND DFFH

Anchor and DFFH work closely together to provide a comprehensive and supportive program for our kinship carers.

Anchor is funded by and receives kinship care referrals from DFFH. There are formal processes and legal requirements, such as annual case plans, which take place.

The Anchor Kinship Care program works in consultation with DFFH as this organisation is often the children's legal guardian. Anchor works with DFFH to ensure alignment with DFFH policies and practices to provide the best care for our clients and their families.



Families,
Fairness
and Housing

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

Anchor provides a support service which covers all aspects of parenting kinship children including carer needs. We provide information about:

- Behavioural and parenting issues
- Centrelink
- Education
- Medicare
- Carer's card
- Support groups

All kinship carers in the community are able to contact Anchor for information and advice. Whether you are a voluntary or court appointed carer, Anchor will refer or assist you to get the information you need.



USEFUL CONTACTS

The below are some useful resources and contact numbers for kinship carers.

Carer KAfe

Learning and development opportunities for Victorian statutory kinship and accredited foster carers.

Ph: 03 9416 4292

www.carerkafe.org.au/

Carers Victoria

Statewide voice for family carers, representing and providing support to carers in Victoria.

Free call: 1800 514 845

Ph: 03 9396 9500

www.carersvictoria.org.au/

Grandparents Victoria

Statewide non-profit organisation of grandparents working.

Ph: 03 9372 2422

www.grandparents.com.au

Mirabel Foundation

Assists children who have been orphaned or abandoned due to parental illicit drug use and are now in the care of extended family (kinship care).

Ph: 03 9527 9422

www.mirabelfoundation.org.au/

Parent Line

Statewide telephone counselling and support service for all Victorian parents and carers of children from 0-18 years.

Ph: 13 22 99



CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

44 Lakeview Drive,
Scoresby VIC 3179 Australia

P: 03 8761 9040

E: kinshipcare@anchor.org.au

www.anchor.org.au



Anchor acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and pays respect to their Elders, past and present.