

COMMUNITY RESOURCES for Kinship Carers

CAMPS & RESPITE



2022

CAMPS



Edmund Rice Camps Inc

7 Amberley Way, Warendjeri Country,
Lower Plenty VIC 3093

Phone: 03 8359 0145 / 0416 105 345

Email: programs@ercvic.com / eo@ercvic.com
visit www.edmundricecamps.org



Camp children are able to laugh, play, sing, dance, run amok and have fun – things that most Australians view as essential ingredients of growing up.

For the children who attend, the camps also promote personal growth, helping them develop life skills and enhancing their sense of value and worth.

The 1:1 ratio allows for one on one attention, something that many of the children are starving for. Many of the benefits stem simply from the kids being able to spend time with compassionate, caring and enthusiastic people who can act as positive role models in their lives.

Camps also serve the purpose of providing short-term respite care. This allows the families or carers of children the chance to cope with their difficulties, secure in the knowledge that their children are being well cared for and having fun.



Southern Cross Kids' Camps

Phone (03) 9762 7636

Email info@sckc.org.au

Southern Cross Kids' Camps is a not-for-profit and advocacy organisation, dedicated to helping children overcome the negative impacts of abuse and neglect for the hope of vibrant futures in their communities.

SCKC interrupts the cycle of abuse and neglect in primary aged children by providing an outstanding five-day camping program.

Many of the kids who attend camp are in the foster care system and have been subjected to various forms of significant trauma.

With over 700 dedicated volunteers, kids experience a week filled with fun and laughter and get to leave camp with a fresh perspective, new life skills and hope for a brighter future.

SCKC provides a week of happy memories for the kids who need it most.



The Portsea Camp

Di De Corrado – Bookings Manager,

Bookings and General Enquiries

info@theportseacamp.com.au

Jill Sands – Charity Camp Coordinator

jills@theportseacamp.com.au

The Portsea Camp's mission is to run and provide a venue for camps for rurally isolated, disadvantaged and special needs children who 'need a break'.

Week-long camps are run for 9-12-year olds during January and Easter school holidays and for 13-16 year olds in September. A weekend 'break away' camp is also run for local teenagers.

Camps run for disadvantaged, rurally isolated and special needs children during school holidays are second to none. With a near 70-year history running such camps you can rest assured that we have ironed out any bugs!



Breakaway Camps

PO Box 46

Preston Vic 3072

P: (03) 9471 1877

E: admin@breakawaycamps.org.au



Breakaway is a unique free youth support program that is based in Melbourne Victoria serving the Banyule, Darebin and Whittlesea regions.

All of the young people are referred to Breakaway Camps by local welfare agencies within the Darebin and Whittlesea regions who work with their families, as well as schools, city councils and churches.

They come to Breakaway Camps for many reasons these reasons include: living in a single parent home, family struggling financially, substance abuse in their home, domestic violence, family breakdown, difficulty in school and social settings or living in out-of-home care.



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ABORIGINAL
CHILDRENS CAMP



ERC has worked closely with Indigenous groups in Victoria to establish camp programs that incorporate a connection to traditional cultural understandings.

Indigenous youth in Australia are recognised as being particularly disadvantaged in the areas of education and health and can face additional cultural barriers to their participation in society. Together we have identified that there is a need for us to provide specific camping programs for Indigenous children.

ERC provides Indigenous children with:

- an opportunity to go on a camp and have an experience that is positive, fun and safe
- an opportunity to experience an empowering relationship with young adult volunteers that enables the modelling of positive behaviour
- the facilitation of a program that provides a link to the elders of their community and the opportunity to share cultural understanding.

The opportunity for the children to discover and share in their culture leads to a sense of pride in being Aboriginal and invites opportunities for further exploration.

RESPIRE FOR KINSHIP CARERS



Abracadabra Childcare Services

Abracadabra Respite Care offers a wide variety of respite services, which include:

- Respite for foster/kinship carers
- Respite for parents who have fallen victim to domestic violence
- Disability/injury care & insurance claims
- Community services workshops & forums – Group childcare assistance
- Children with special needs including supporting families' NDIS funding
- 24/7 childcare for unwell parents requiring hospitalisation

All of these services will cover short regular episodes of care, 24-hour live-in care, or even casual care.

1300 011 167

abra.childcare@gmail.com

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

After Hours Service Number & Emergency Care: 6am to 9am & 5pm to 9pm Weekdays

6am to 9pm Saturday & Sunday

Please text 0403 222 117 and an ACS consultant will respond ASAP.





Family Contact Service

Kinship carers are vital in child protection situations and taking care of the carers is important too. Our Kinship Carer Respite Service supports carers by allowing them time alone to rest and recharge after the intense demands of their role.

Family Contact Service offers an in-home respite service for children in kinship care situations, meaning that children have the security of a consistent respite carer in the familiarity of their own home, whilst allowing carers an important break.

Alternative respite options include weekends away or respite care in a contingency house. Carers might like to take advantage of our respite service for a variety of reasons. It might just be for a few hours a week to allow them uninterrupted time to complete errands such as shopping or to

spend some much-needed time with their partner. Carers may also need extra support during more intense periods, such as school holidays.

One of the main needs identified by kinship carers is respite from caring. Every year, approximately 14% of kinship carers are forced to cease performing their caring roles for various reasons but often due to a lack of support. Family Contact Service is committed to providing a stopgap for kinship care families in need of support. Please be advised a brochure and application for Kinship Carer Respite is being developed at this time. Please add information to the FCS Application for Time Spent/Access/Foster & Kinship Carer Respite in sections relevant and at the end of the application there are three empty text boxes to type extra information into.



- Available 365 days per year, except Christmas day depending on staff availability.
- We cover all areas of Melbourne, Geelong and rural areas in Victoria.
- Handover and pick-up service offered.
- Time spent/access supervision court reports provided on request.
- Supervisors can give evidence in court if subpoenaed with an hourly rate charged.
- Organisation providing supervisors for time spent/access supervision for the Family and Children's Courts.
- Respectful, private and confidential service to families.
- Minimum time for supervision is two hours.
- Our focus is protection for children from harm during contact in line with the Child Safety Standards under the *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005*.

- We are a private organisation that offers innovation and creativity, Let's create options together.

ABOUT OUR STAFF

- Qualified supervisors with training specific for your needs.
- Currently 27 qualified and industry experienced staff members.
- All staff have either welfare, human services or social work qualifications and other relevant industry qualifications.
- All staff have a current working with children check.

Family Contact Service provides experienced and qualified time spent/access supervisors for supervised contact.

Family Contact Service is a Child Safe Practice organisation.

Contact

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julie@familycontactservice.com.au

0452 515 080

geoff@familycontactservice.com.au



Kinship Carers Victoria
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admin@kinshipcarersvictoria.org



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is supported by the Victorian Government.