Centre for Excellence
in Child and Family Welfare Inc.

Media Release

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Victorian foster care agencies unite to address shortage of foster carers

A new campaign has been launched to attract a new generation of fosters carers in Victoria.

Victoria experiences a shortfall of more than 300 foster carers each year. These carers are sorely needed to help care for children and young people who cannot live with their families.

For the first time, Victoria's 26 foster care agencies have united to form Fostering Connections, to raise awareness of foster care and make it easier for people interested in becoming a carer to take the first step.

Fostering Connections has established a new central website www.fosteringconnections.com.au and a 24/7 enquiry line 1800 013 088 to provide prospective foster carers with everything they need to know.

"By making it easier to find out more about becoming a foster carer, we hope to see more people opening their hearts and homes to a child or young person in need of a stable and loving home", said Ms Deb Tsorbaris, CEO of the Centre for Excellence.

Fostering Connections was launched yesterday at the Melbourne Museum by the Hon Jenny Mikakos, Minister for Families and Children, with foster families joining the celebration.

The attraction campaign emphasises that it's the little things you can do that will make you amazing to a child, whether it's reading them a bedtime story or taking them to the footy.

Fostering Connections is supported by the Victorian Government, who has invested $3.2 million towards attracting, recruiting and retaining more carers.

To find out more about becoming a foster carer visit www.fosteringconnections.com.au or call 1800 013 088.

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