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Kids in Care Newsletter June 2024

Kids in Care ACT Inc Board changes

Following the recent Special General Meeting of the Association, approval was given to making several changes to our Constitution. One of the more significant changes was to increase the number of Directors on the Board from four (4) to six (6). Welcome to our two new Board members, Danielle Bewick and Jessica Ashman. Our previous Secretary, Rhiannon Box, has also had to step down due to family and work commitments, with Dennis Ogden being appointed by the Board as the interim Secretary.

Chair – Alex Uren

Secretary – Dennis Ogden

Treasurer – John Askew

Directors – Jessica Ashman, Danielle Bewick, Kellie Landsmann, Matthew Lane, Margaret Anne Tobin, Steph Vellar

We have also recently opened a post office box at the Canberra City Post Office (GPO Box 132, Canberra ACT 2601) and updated our street address to c/- Canberra City Police Station. We would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to National Mailing & Marketing who have been our base and major storage centre since the inception of Kids in Care in 2013. Without their constant support and assistance over the past ten years, we would not be in the position we are today to support our vulnerable children.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzles

As mentioned in our last Newsletter, we have been fortunate to have been offered two fund-raising Sausage Sizzles at Tuggeranong Bunnings in recent months. Both have been a tremendous success, raising much-needed funds and providing the opportunity for many of our members and supporters to have a fun day out together. Our thanks to all of our generous volunteers, but a special thanks to the many AFP employees and members of the Tuggeranong and Ginninderra Rotary Clubs who gave up some of their valuable weekend time at short notice to ensure the days were successful (and no Bunnings customer went home hungry 😊!).

We have already been allocated our next Sausage Sizzle, to be held on Sunday 30 June – a great way to see out the financial year and give us a good start, financially, to 2024-25. We would appreciate any assistance you could offer for one or more of the 2-hour shifts between 8.00am and 4.00pm on either day. If you are able to spare some time, please contact Dennis on 0428 107 407 or email dl.ogden@outlook.com .



Go Bags:

Following the successful relocation of our Go Bags stock from Charnwood to the CWA building in the city, Sandra Goldstraw has volunteered to take on the task of Go Bags Coordinator. Sandra and her husband Brian, with support from friend Justine, have now sorted and labelled all stock, and are ready to start assembling bags for distribution to wherever they're needed. With the arrival of the cooler weather, we are now into assembling winter bags for distribution to the local Police Stations, Domestic Violence centres, ACT Child & Youth Protection Services, NSW Department of Communities & Justice, and other organisations supporting vulnerable or at-risk children in our region.



supplied by 99 Bikes in Phillip to be used by Yerrabi Yurwang. Yerrabi Yurwang strives to deliver quality culturally appropriate services to empower generations of culturally strong and thriving Aboriginal Children and Families. Our sincere thanks to Stefan and the team from 99 Bikes Phillip who have offered very generous discounts on the bikes for this very worthy cause.



Rotary connection:

Our interaction with the local Rotary Clubs in ACT and Regional NSW is increasing, with Kids in Care presentations being held recently at the Rotary Clubs of Bombala, Murrumbidgee, Burley Griffin and Bowral-Mittagong. Rotary Clubs have a direct link to their local communities and are well placed to assist the Women's Refuges and Domestic Violence Centres in their respective areas. They are also very supportive of our fund-raising efforts with cash donations and supply of volunteers; a perfect case of working together to achieve better outcomes for our community.

Membership drive:

At this stage, we are planning our Annual General Meeting for July. We are always looking for new members to support our various activities, and even stand for positions on the Board, so why not enquire about membership of Kids in Care ACT Inc? The success of Kids in Care is the support from our members and volunteers, who give generously of their time to raise the funds necessary to continue our support of vulnerable children in the ACT and surrounding regions. The Board has decided to change the annual membership fee to \$10.00 from the beginning of next year to assist with our insurance costs – the joining fee has been abolished.

Planning for Christmas 2024

Although we're only into May, planning has already started for Christmas 2024. We usually aim to purchase most of the toys needed for Christmas during the mid-year sales, but this requires early interim lists from both ACT Child & Youth Protection Services and the NSW Department of Communities & Justice, which are being prepared as we speak. Planning is also underway for the setting up of our Giving Trees and arrangements for the toy collections/distribution, to ensure we get as many as we can out to where they're needed as soon as we

Website update

Due to other priorities over the past few months, we haven't been able to spend enough time on updating our Kids in Care website – this has now become important if we're going to be able to keep all members and supporters up-to-date with what's happening at Kids in Care. We would also like to restructure and modernise the site a little bit, so if we have an IT guru out there who is an expert in web sites and is able to lend a hand, you would be more than welcome to assist. Please contact Dennis Ogden (dl.ogden@outlook.com) or Kellie Landsmann (kellie.landsmann@hotmail.com).

Information Night & Get-together

We're planning a get-together of all Association members, supporters and anybody with an interest in finding out more about the activities of Kids in Care. We'll be meeting at Paloma's on Lonsdale (2/5 Lonsdale Street, Braddon) on Tuesday 25 June from 4.00pm to 6.30pm and our Board members will be present to answer any questions that you might have. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to kidsincareact@gmail.com before Monday 17 June.

RSVP: Monday 17 June 2024

Tax Time

As we get nearer to the end of the 2023-24 financial year, many people could be looking to see what deductions that have to claim in their tax return this year. A reminder that donations of \$2.00 or more to Kids in Care ACT Inc are fully tax deductible. Just go to our website kidsincareact.org.au and click on DONATIONS. Every dollar raised goes towards supporting vulnerable and at-risk children in our region.

Kids in Care would like to thank our major sponsors:

AFP - Toy World – Big W – Bunnings – Distinct Property Management –
Rotary Clubs of ACT and Regional NSW – Country Women's Association –
New Millennium Printing – GIVIT – Neoflam – Canberra Labor Club –
BROD – Canberra Labor Club





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