



Commonwealth Child Safe Framework 2021 Statement of Compliance

FamilyCare's commitment to Child Safety:

- Child safety is at the heart of all of FamilyCare's services and systems.
- All of FamilyCare's Board, Staff and Volunteers are required to support, adopt and follow the Child Safe Statement included in FamilyCare's Code of Conduct.
- The first two commitments in FamilyCare's Child Safe Statement are:
 - We believe every child has the right to be safe.
 - We will prioritise safety in all of our services and activities that involve children.
- The Child Safe Statement also recognises the vital role that culture plays in the safety of Aboriginal Children.
- A detailed system for monitoring and compliance supports FamilyCare's commitments to child safety.
- That system is compliant with :
 - The Victorian Child Safe Standards
 - The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
 - FamilyCare's accreditation against ISO 9001:2015.

Declaration of compliance and improvement measures:

- FamilyCare is compliant with the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework.
- An improvement identified some years ago, is the need to continually enhance opportunities for children to have a say, provide feedback and make complaints.
- FamilyCare is continuing to explore ways in which to assist children understand their right to provide input, in ways that are responsive to different ages, stages and levels of comprehension.

FamilyCare's interactions with Children:

- All of FamilyCare's service activities can include contact with children.
- FamilyCare's interactions with children are extensive and include:
 - Online
 - In-person, individually and in groups
 - Case-management and

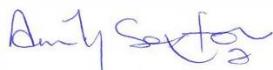
- Community development activities.
- FamilyCare does not provide any residential services, however does have regular contact with the Child Protection and Out of Home Care Systems.
- As well as the Child Safe Statement, FamilyCare has a specific Child Safe Policy to guide the preparation of procedures and work guidance, relevant to services and activities that involve children.

The outcome of FamilyCare's 2021 child safe risk assessment:

- FamilyCare's child safety risk assessment incorporated a review of a standing risk item relating to the Abuse and Neglect of children.
- The standing risk is owned by FamilyCare's Director of Services and is reviewed at least bi-monthly.
- The risk is rated as medium with the potential impact extreme, but the likelihood of occurrence rare.
- Significant incidents or occasions of non-compliance are reported as required to relevant government bodies and monthly to FamilyCare's Board.
- As relevant, allegations or evidence of abuse and neglect will be reported to police.
- The 2021 child safety risk assessment found that FamilyCare is compliant with its obligations and is managing risk in a proactive, effective manner.

Child Safety initiatives in the last year

- FamilyCare has an ongoing training and professional development platform, on-line and face-to-face (as restrictions allow), which identifies child safety as a priority.
- In the last year FamilyCare has:
 - Developed and promoted a specific Listening to Children and Young People Procedure, to provide focus and assist in the development of appropriate tools for children to provide input; and
 - Included on our website, under the references to Our Services, a dedicated page describing Our Commitments to Children.



Ann Sexton
Board Chair



David Tennant
CEO

Dated: 22 October 2021