

MEDIA RELEASE

10 June 2020

creating a better life
for children and young
people in care

ADOPTION ONLY PART OF A ROBUST SYSTEM

Over 45,000 Australian (8,000 in QLD) children were unable to sleep in their own home last night and are growing up in out-of-home care. Since no two families' unique needs are the same and the issues are multi-faceted, the enduring goal is to achieve stable, permanent placements for children and young people within the care system, which in turn delivers long-term benefits.

CREATE Foundation's Chief Executive Officer, Ms Jacqui Reed, shared that, *"There is no such thing as a quick fix to a system dogged by poor resourcing and a lack of effective infrastructure for monitoring and supporting case workers, considering all of the complexities involved in keeping children safe."*

"We recognise the system is under strain, and in spite of the demand on workers with high workloads, expectations of care and protection outcomes are high. There will never be one size fits all and the unique needs of every child must be considered on an individual basis, with the child, or young person, encouraged and supported to participate in the discussions about their future."

"Through CREATE's independent direct consultations with those with a care experience, we have been informed that adoption seems to appeal to some children, and young people, and although it offers benefits, it may not suit all."

CREATE supports the opportunity to investigate permanency options including adoption. However, cautions that the issues surrounding adoption for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people must be addressed, and a thorough exploration of contact with siblings and extended family to ensure that the rights of children and young people during the adoption process are fully articulated and considered.

CREATE Foundation is the national consumer body representing the voices of children and young people with an out-of-home care experience (including kinship care, foster care and residential care). CREATE develops policy and research to report on and advocate for a better care system.

Learn about CREATE's research and position on the issue of adoption in out-of-home care here [CREATE-Position-Adoption](#)

Read more about CREATE Foundation via <http://www.create.org.au>

For further comment from CREATE's Chief Executive Officer, Ms Jacqui Reed, and / or a young person with care experience contact Leigh White, CREATE Communications Advisor, via (m) 0431 932 122 or leigh.white@create.org.au



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