

Media Release

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Community of Bundaberg puts their best foot forward in raising awareness of Child Protection

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Six hundred residents of the Bundaberg community collectively joined together to celebrate National Child Protection Week, with local foster care agency, Foundations Care with a Family Fun Day, on Saturday the 7th of September.

Good hearted volunteers from The Hinkler Lions Club, Bundaberg SES, Fire Brigade and the general community, were on hand to share the community event.

"The event was about collectively putting our best foot forward to reduce child abuse, as a community, celebrating those who are foster carers in our community and to shine light on the ongoing need for carers across Central QLD" said Foundations Care Spokesperson, Jason Thatcher.

There is a real need for foster carers in the region with over 8,000 children in out of home care across the state.

Deputy Mayor, David Batt, who previously served for twenty three years in the police service, some in the child protection unit, says, "Child protection is everyone's responsibility. The impact that trauma, abuse or neglect can have on a child can be seen in their emotional maturity and development. When provided with appropriate care from a foster carer and the network of specialist supports in place, you can really begin to see the child's physical and psychological health improve. The impact it has on their life today and in the future is a significant one."

"What these children need most is a safe and nurturing place to call home so that they can begin to heal and live the kind of childhood all children deserve".

To find out more about becoming a foster carer, contact Foundations Care on 1300 395 005 or visit www.foundcarekids.org.au

For further information contact Jenny Johnston on 0437 942 821 or jjohnston@foundcare.org.au