MEDIA RELEASE 05 March 2014



In partnership with Indigenous Wellbeing Centre and Lifestyle Solutions, thanks to PeakCare

Foundation's Care is inviting Bundaberg and surrounding areas to attend the inaugural, annual Pamper Day, presented by Foundations Care, in partnership with PeakCare, The Indigenous Wellbeing Centre, and Lifestyle Solutions - 11 March at Bundaberg Botanic Gardens.

As part of Foster and Kinship Carer Week 2014, Pamper Day will see the Bundaberg community come together in the name of this countries unsung heroes – our Foster Carers and their families.

Currently there are 8 000 Queensland Children in foster care and Jason Thatcher, National Manager of Families and Child Safety believes, "Our carers are this communities unsung heroes, and it is about time we took a moment to celebrate those who are already making a meaningful difference in the life of a child who is otherwise left with no one, often through no fault of their own".

"Pamper Day is an important event and will shed a bright light on the desperate need for more Foster Carers around the country whilst taking a well-deserved moment to celebrate the wonderful work of Foster Carers" Jason Said.

Moya is a Foster Carer and just one of the brilliant Foster Carers the day will honour. She tells her story, "My husband and I have been carers in the Bundaberg region for just over 5 years now. Sadly my husband passed away four years ago and I continued the journey we had started together by opening my home and heart to these children and understating their problems and assisting in their physical & mental stimulation is rewarding to me. Before moving the Bundaberg from the ACT we worked with the ACT Government Education Dept. and we were host parents to children who came to Australia to study English for over 15 years".

"Being a Foster Carer has created real meaning in my life, especially when you see where these children come from or what they have had to deal with, some of them at a really young age, and then you know what you can give them, it makes sense to open your home to them – they are just children after all and who is going to help them if we don't" Moya says.

And the community sees this as one of the many reasons why we carers like Moya should be celebrated, illustrated by a tidal wave of support from more than 20 local businesses from the Bundaberg community.

"The support of the community and those who have banded together to celebrate Foster Carers of their local community has been truly astounding - Bundaberg should be really proud of themselves" Jason said.

Event supporters featuring on the day include: Austereo's Sea FM, Di-namic Shift Hand Massage and Reflexology; Café 1928; Clarins; Bunning's Warehouse; Beauty Rhapsody Day Spa; Malouf Chemist; Terry White Chemist; Bee well Massage; Liberty Healing and Wellness; Living Chi; Dharma Connection; Rhee Taekwondo; Jackie Montgomery; Stag Hairdressers; Office Works; Flower Fusion Florist; Avon, Nutrimetics; and the Body Shop... just to name a few!

Foundations Care is inviting the community to come along to the Bundaberg Botanic Gardens on 11 March, and Join in the fun: meet other Foster carers; chat with Foundations Care staff; check out the Pamper Day displays and food stalls, and most importantly, help us to celebrate the important role of Foster Carers in our community.

MEDIA RELEASE 05 March 2014

DETAILS ARE: 10am - 2pm, Tues 11 March 2014 @ Café 1928, Bundaberg Botanical Gardens Media are invited to attend and to take part in the Media Opportunity kicking off at 10am with local Government, carers, and Foundations Care representatives cutting a giant cake in honour of this countries wonderful carers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MEDIA SPOKESPERSON JASON THATCHER National Manager -Child and Family Services on 0437 550 575 or via jthatcher@csgroup.org.au