

# THE CHILD and YOUNG PERSONS VISITOR [CYP VISITOR]

## 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

**SUMMARY**

THE CYP VISITOR IS **SHONA REID**  
 COMMENCED 1 AUG 2022  
 SHONA IS AN EASTERN ARRERNTJE WOMAN AND ALSO GUARDIAN FOR CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE.

"MY JOB IS TO VISIT YOUNG PEOPLE IN RESIDENTIAL CARE AND ADVOCATE FOR THEIR RIGHTS."  
 "I PAY MY RESPECT TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE THAT I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF MEETING THIS YEAR."

# CYP VISITOR IN 2022-23

**VISIT:** 91 YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS 30 HOMES

**ADVOCATE: TOP THREE ISSUES RAISED BY YOUNG PEOPLE:**

- 1 Safe & stable placement
- 2 Contact with family and community
- 3 Relationships with their workers.



WHAT DO VISITS LOOK LIKE?

**INSPECT:** FORMAL INSPECTIONS

**INQUIRE & ADVISE** the MINISTER

**PROMOTE BEST INTERESTS:** SPEECHES, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, SUBMISSIONS, MEDIA INTERVIEWS, SOCIAL MEDIA

**FUNDING ISSUES:** THE VISITING PROGRAM IS UNDER-FUNDED ON A SHORT-TERM CYCLE. "THE MONEY STORY IS ENTIRELY FRUSTRATING."

## Human Rights!

YOUNG PEOPLE IN RESIDENTIAL CARE HAVE HUMAN AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

RIGHTS DO NOT HAVE TO BE EARNED AND THEY CANNOT BE LOST

## KEY OBSERVATIONS

**CARE CRIMINALIZATION**

ONE IN EIGHT YOUNG PEOPLE VISITED WERE ADMITTED TO YOUTH DETENTION DURING THE YEAR.

"I KNOW THE STATISTICS FOR KIDS LIKE ME. I'VE RESEARCHED IT."

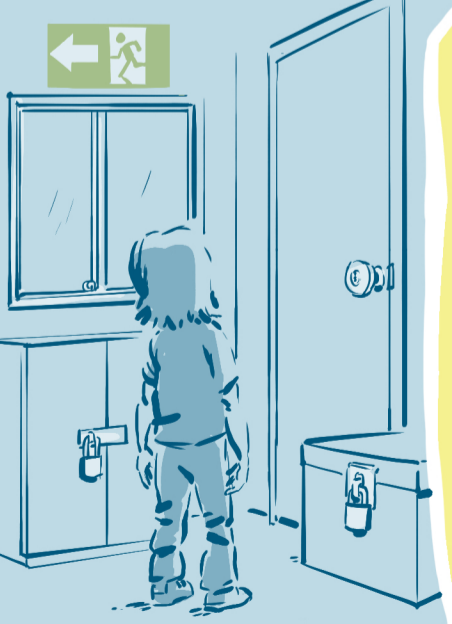
RAISE THE AGE!

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DUAL INVOLVED REPORT**

## HOUSE OR HOME?

A WORKPLACE V. A HOME

ONE IN FOUR YOUNG PEOPLE CALLED THEIR HOUSE A 'HOME'.



"IT FEELS LIKE PRISON WHEN EVERYTHING IS LOCKED."

## CAREGIVERS AND WORKERS

CASUAL STAFF ROTATING SHIFTS AND 10 MINUTE HANDOVERS. PAID TO CARE.

"I'VE LOST FOUR CLOSE CARERS. THEY JUST DISAPPEARED."

## UNSTABLE PLACEMENTS

"JUST MAKE IT [THIS HOUSE] MINE FOREVER COZ I HAVE DONE A LOT OF WORK SETTING ALL THIS UP."



**CONNECTIONS**  
 RESIDENTIAL CARE CAN ENTRENCH ISOLATION.  
 "I'M IT AND NEVER HAD A SLEEP-OVER WITH MY FRIENDS BECAUSE I'D HAVE TO ASK THEM FOR A POLICE CHECK"

## UNSAFE PLACEMENTS

PEER CONFLICT

"IT'S NOT LIKE BEING AROUND FAMILY... FAMILY FEELS LIKE YOU BELONG."



"DCP WON'T LET ME GO HOME BECAUSE IT'S UNSAFE. BUT IT'S NOT SAFE HERE!"



SEEING LOVED ONES

FEELING UNSAFE

## YOUNG PEOPLE MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

MORE THAN 1 IN 4 REPORTED AS MISSING LEADING UP TO THE VISIT.

VOTING WITH THEIR FEET

PLACEMENT SHORTAGES AND RISING RESIDENTIAL CARE POPULATION = LIMITED PLACEMENT OPTIONS

## EDUCATION

ONLY 45% IN FULL-TIME EDUCATION



"I NEED TO GO TO SCHOOL. I JUST SIT HERE ALL DAY DOING NOTHING."

## YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

OVER REPRESENTED IN RESIDENTIAL CARE -70% OF HOMES.

## MENTAL HEALTH

1 IN 6 YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A DIAGNOSED MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION.

TRIGGERING FRIENDS, NIGHT TERRORS, PANIC ATTACKS, SELF HARM, LOW SELF ESTEEM

YOUNG PEOPLE NEED SUPPORT TO HEAL, DEVELOP AND GROW.

## LEAVING CARE

TURNING 18 IS NOT JUST A CELEBRATION:

18

HOUSING STRESS, ISOLATION, LOSING CARERS

TRANSITION FROM CARE IS A YOUNG PERSON'S WHOLE FUTURE.

"I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO BE LEFT HOMELESS."



"I JUST WANT SOME PEACE AND QUIET FOR MY LAST YEAR OF BEING A CHILD."

## ABORIGINAL YOUNG PEOPLE

GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO MAKE ACTIVE EFFORTS TO EMBED ALL ELEMENTS OF THE ABORIGINAL CHILD PLACEMENT PRINCIPLE.

CONNECTION WITH CULTURE

MEANINGFUL OPPORTUNITIES -NOT JUST NAIDOC WEEK!

"WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT OUR CLAN OR TRIBE IS."

"I WOULD LIKE SOME MORE SUPPORT FROM THE HOUSE."

"THE LAW SAYS I MUST PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO ABORIGINAL YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY."

MORE LIKELY TO BE:  
 EXCLUDED/DISENGAGED FROM SCHOOL, A MISSING PERSON, ADMITTED TO DETENTION

