

## 2023 Better Chances Engagement Practice Forum: Call for presentations and activities

The Better Chances Forum (BCF) planning group is calling for proposals for presentations, workshops and other activities to include in the 2023 Better Chances Engagement Practice Forum.

### **Connect, reflect and share our stories**

This exciting regional forum will be a great opportunity to share, learn and build engagement practice and connection among workers, services and communities supporting children, young people and their families across Bundjalung, Yaegl and Gumbaynggirr Country (Northern Rivers).

**Date:** 15 March 2023

**Venue:** Ballina RSL Club

### **Do you have a story to share?**

We are interested to hear and learn about engagement projects and approaches from within Bundjalung, Yaegl and Gumbaynggirr Country and beyond that are locally, community or culturally-led, including:

- how services connect with children, young people and families seeking support (may include approach to intake, assessment, planning and relationship building)
- how we support children, young people and their families to influence decisions about their lives and the support they will receive (alongside services and community)
- building relationships between services and community to support wellbeing
- involving children, young people and their families in the design, delivery and evaluation of services, programs and activities

- activities focusing on early intervention, healing and trauma informed care
- Activities that support the purpose of BCF (see page 2).

Preference will be given to activities that are presented or co-presented by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and community members.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land where we live and work and their continuing connection to land, water, sea and community. We pay respects to Australia's First Peoples, to their unique and diverse cultures, and to Elders past, present and future.

Inclusion is about the actions we take every day. We welcome, support, and celebrate diversity.

## Purpose of the Better Chances Forum

BCF is a collaboration supporting better chances for children, young people, their families and communities to lead safe, healthy and happy lives. We focus on early intervention and prevention to keep families together. We come together to:

- connect, reflect and build our practice
- share information and build relationships
- act to work more supportively alongside children, young people, their families and communities
- create space for storytelling to explore what's working and not working in our service systems – to understand challenges, gaps and opportunities– and communicate these stories to decision-makers.

**Click [here](#) to submit your proposal** to deliver a presentation, workshop or other activity at the 15 March 2023 BCF Engagement Practice Forum. You can also call us to discuss your proposal (see contact details on this page). Submissions close 1 February 2023.

Presentations, workshops and activities will be selected by a panel of BCF members from at least 3 BCF member organisations.

This is a face-to-face event but virtual presentations may be considered. We may invite you to present at a subsequent BCF session if your presentation is not included in the March Forum.

Presenters will receive free registration. Travel costs and fees may also be considered where needed, subject to available budget.

## Specialist workshop facilitation

Alongside the 2023 Better Chances Engagement Practice Forum, we are seeking expressions of interest from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander facilitators to deliver:

- strengthening workshops just for First Nations family support and early childhood workers
- trauma informed care training for early intervention services, including content on impacts of transgenerational trauma for First Nations communities.

For more information about specialist workshops, including facilitator contracting requirements and budget, please contact us via the details below.

Thank you to the members of the **2023 BCF Engagement Practice Forum committee** for planning and delivering of this event: YWCA Australia, Ngunya Jarjum Aboriginal Child and Family Network, Southern Cross University Centre for Children and Young People, We Al-li, Livable, Youth Justice NSW, Northern NSW Local Health District, NSW Department of Education, Social Futures, NSW Office for Regional Youth and Family Services NSW (FAMS).

## Contact the BCF convenors

[betterchances@socialfutures.org.au](mailto:betterchances@socialfutures.org.au)

Katrina 0416 277 244

Ian 0438 005 798

<https://forms.office.com/r/wykHwkw8dc>

*BCF is convened by Social Futures as part of the Early Intervention Connect program, which is funded by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice under the Targeted*

