10 June 2020

Out of Home Care Agency's partner up to ensure young people can continue to live and be cared for in the Inner West

Stretch-A-Family (SAF) and The Burdekin Association (TBA) are delighted that the Inner West Out-of-Home Care (OOHC) Residential Care Services currently delivered by SAF will transfer to TBA effective 1 July 2020.

Due to significant changes to the Residential Care Program in NSW, SAF has decided that now is the right time to cease providing Residential Care. Rather than exit the program completely from the Inner West, SAF chose to employ a partnering model to transfer its services to TBA, a trusted community-based agency known for providing quality, client focused care.

This collaborative transfer process means that the young people currently supported by SAF can continue to be cared for in their homes as per their case plan goals and supported by staff who are familiar to them.

This transfer also ensures that vital accommodation and support can continue to be provided for vulnerable young people in the Inner West while providing TBA with an excellent opportunity to bring its considerable knowledge and experience of service provision to young people in the area

In the short term, the changes will be minimal for young people. However, in the long term, the new arrangement is expected to generate more options for supported accommodation for the young people in residence and vulnerable young people across the Inner West region. SAF and TBA share a commitment to quality care, innovative practices, and specialised support services.

SAF and TBA would like to acknowledge the support and assistance provided by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) and the NSW Land and Housing Corporation throughout this transition process.

Please direct any questions to Maria Maxwell, CEO SAF on maria@stretchafamily.com.au and / or Justene Gordon, CEO, TBA, Justene.Gordon@burdekin.org.au.