



Update for ACT and Vic Partners: May 2014

Dear Partners,

Welcome! This newsletter is to provide an update on the progress for the kContact study.

In our last newsletter in February we announced the new name for the study ***Improving contact between children in out-of-home care and their birth parents: developing and trialling a contact intervention.***

From now on we will use the name ***kContact: Keeping contact between parents and children in care*** on material associated with the project to help brand the project and identify the project easily. We hope you like the new logo too!

Progress

- Tracey and Margaret have met with all agency partners to discuss the project and have developed an understanding of the different approaches to contact that services are using.
- Searches of the literature have been completed and the findings are currently being compiled into a preliminary draft of the guidelines.
- A small number of key stakeholders have been invited to participate in interviews to help further direct the content of the guidelines
- Research approval has been submitted to DHS in Victoria to conduct interviews and obtain data.

What we hope to achieve over the next few months...

- Complete draft sections of the guidelines to circulate for input at the workshop
- Complete key stakeholder interviews and integrate content into the draft guidelines.
- Organise an expert panel to review the draft guidelines and develop the intervention to be trialled.

Save the date

We have scheduled two workshops in conjunction with the Project Advisory Group meetings in Victoria and ACT. These workshops will address topics including feasibility issues, refine the draft guidelines, and update attendees on the current status of project. We will be seeking input from our partners to present on topics related to contact to further develop the guidelines. Please let your staff know about these dates.

Dates proposed: Victorian workshop: 12th August 9am – 3pm
ACT workshop: 14th August 9am – 3pm

In the meantime, please email if there are any issues or concerns.

Morag, Stephanie, Cathy, Tracey, Margaret and Rhys.

Project Team

Victoria	ACT
<p>Chief Investigator</p> <p>Professor Cathy Humphreys Alfred Felton Chair of Child and Family Social Work Department of Social Work University of Melbourne Parkville. Victoria 3010 Ph: 03 8344 9427 cathy.humphreys@unimelb.edu.au</p>	<p>Chief Investigators</p> <p>Professor Morag McArthur Director, ICPS Australian Catholic University Watson ACT 2601 Ph: 02 6209 1225 morag.mcarthur@acu.edu.au</p> <p>Associate Professor Stephanie Taplin Associate Director, ICPS Ph: 02 6209 1319 stephanie.taplin@acu.edu.au</p>
<p>Project Staff</p> <p>Dr Margaret Kertesz Research Fellow Department of Social Work University of Melbourne Ph: 03 9035 8508 mkertesz@unimelb.edu.au</p>	<p>Project Staff</p> <p>Dr Tracey Bullen Project Manager, ICPS Ph: 02 6209 1331 tracey.bullen@acu.edu.au</p> <p>Rhys Thorpe PhD Candidate, ICPS rhys.thorpe@acu.edu.au</p>
<p>Partner Investigators</p> <p><i>Non-government organisations</i> Under the umbrella of the Centre for Excellence in Child & Family Welfare Inc: Salvation Army Westcare, OzChild, Mackillop Family Services, CAFS Ballarat, Baptcare, Wesley Mission Victoria, Berry Street</p>	<p>Partner Investigators</p> <p><i>Government organisations</i> ACT Community Services Directorate</p> <p><i>Non-government organisations</i> Marymead Child and Family Centre, Barnardos</p>



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