



Foster and Kinship Carer Week 2024 Consultation

Feedback for carers

What this consultation was about

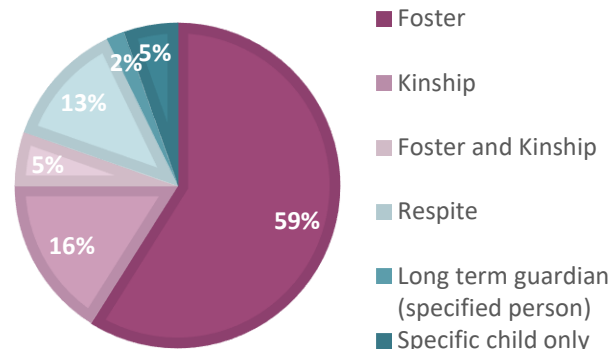
DCP, in collaboration with our non-government partners, host events across South Australia during September each year to thank and celebrate our dedicated foster and kinship carers as part of Foster and Kinship Carer Week. We heard from carers after the 2023 Foster and Kinship Carer Week events and took on board your feedback when planning the 2024 events. Examples of changes this year included carers being able to attend any event (not just their local office events) and ensuring a mix of daytime and evening events. To measure if we have hit the mark, we recently welcomed feedback on the success of the 2024 Foster and Kinship Carer Week events.

Carers' views were captured through a short online survey to help us understand how future events can best celebrate and acknowledge carers, why a carer may not have attended any events, and where we could improve next time.

Who we spoke to

To understand a range of views on this topic, we sought feedback from all family-based carers including:

- Foster carers
- Kinship carers
- Foster and kinship (combined) carers
- Respite carers
- Long term guardians (specified person)
- Specific child only carers
- Carers who attended an event in 2024
- Carers who did not attend an event in 2024.



What we asked

The consultation survey focused on the following questions:

- What did you like about the event you attended?
- What were the main reasons for not attending an event?
- How likely are you to attend a future event?
- DCP strives to thank carers in a way that is most meaningful to them during Foster and Kinship Carer Week and assist them to feel valued in their roles. Do you have any other feedback about how the events held during Foster and Kinship Carer Week can best achieve this?

Our approach



Between September 2024 and October 2024, DCP used an online survey (also available as hardcopy) to hear directly from family-based carers.

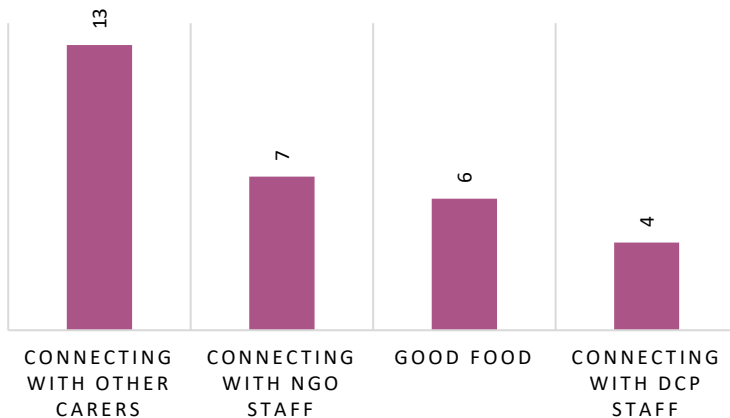
48 carers responded to the online survey. **20** carers **attended** an event, **28** carers **did not attend** an event.



What you told us

Carers who **attended** a 2024 Foster and Kinship Carer Week event told us:

WHAT CARERS LIKED ABOUT THE EVENTS



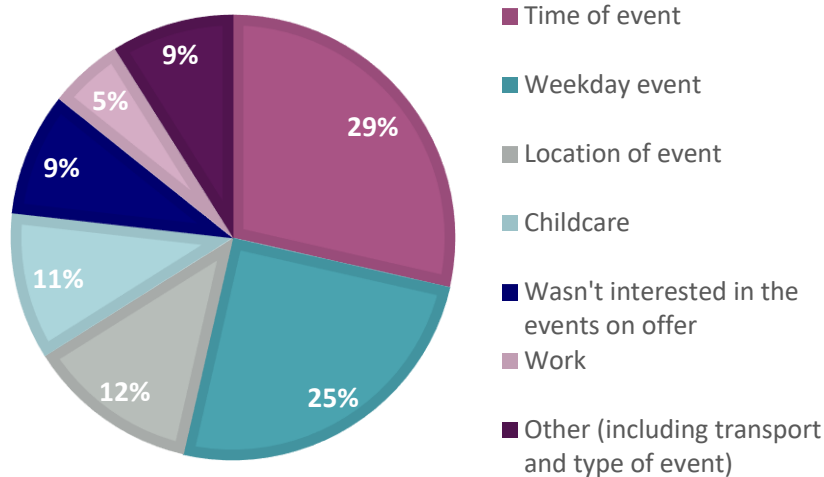
65% of carers who attended an event are **likely to recommend** events to another carer

Top suggestions for improving future events

- Improved time management and service
- Different venues
- Offering greater choice and variety of foods.

Carers who **did not attend** a 2024 Foster and Kinship Carer Week event told us:

WHY CARERS DID NOT ATTEND AN EVENT



Top suggestions for future Foster and Kinship Carer Week events (from all carers)

- Weekend and evening events
- More family-centred events
- Self-care events
- Choice of vouchers or small gifts instead.

What happens next?

Feedback provided by carers will be reviewed by relevant DCP teams and incorporated in the planning of future Foster and Kinship Carer Week events. DCP is committed to valuing and respecting all family-based carers and is working to include carers voice in all appreciation events.

DCP sincerely thanks all who took the time to participate in these consultations and provide feedback.

We appreciate you. We hear you. We're working on improvements.