

Achievements 2014 - 2021



For parents and the community

- Info handouts developed by parent peers
 - Email support and referral for parents
 - Website and Facebook activities
- www.finclusionh.org was launched in 2015. It is a website developed by parents for parents, providing evidence informed, reliable information about the NSW child protection system.

For the sector

Workshops, training & information sessions

- Sessions tailored to meet group needs e.g., foster carer training sessions, practitioners' group supervision sessions, unit meetings.
- Parent co-facilitated workshops: *Building Better Relationships*. Delivered with carers and staff from numerous agencies to improve their work with parents and families.

Consultations

- NSW Department of Communities and Justice, (various) to educate staff, collect parents' views, and participate in conferences.
- Life Without Barriers, to inform a family inclusive approach to foster care.
- Emerging Minds and Parenting Research Centre, to inform family inclusive approaches to research and service design.

We charge fees for services to the sector to fund services to parents and the community and pay parents with lived experience for their expertise.

Agency Partnerships (examples)

- Life Without Barriers
- Hunter Community Alliance
- University of Newcastle
- Samaritans Newcastle
- Wandiyali
- Grandmothers Against Removal
- Many other local relationships
- Founding member of steering committee for [International Parent Advocacy Network \(IPAN\)](#)

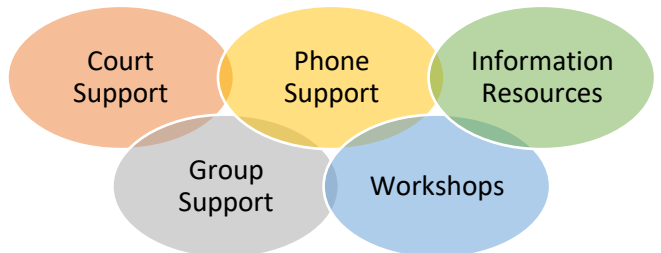
Governance

- Strong and stable management [committee](#) - majority led by parents with lived experience
- Strategic planning in place – [aims and objects](#)
- Principle based decision-making guidelines
- Incorporated Association in NSW
- Public Benevolent Institution with DGR status

Peer Support & Advocacy Service

Established December 2020, informed by PPSP.

More info: <https://finclusionh.org/peer-services/>



Peer Support Workers are parents with lived experience of child protection and out-of-home care systems, including restoration and working with lawyers, workers, and carers. This is a combination paid-voluntary job and includes support and supervision with a social worker.

Parent Peer Support Project (PPSP)

[Project Report](#) Innovative pilot project in 2018-20 which informed our peer support service. A practice and research partnership with Newcastle Law School and Life Without Barriers, funded by NSW Law and Justice Foundation. Linked to peer reviewed studies about parent, peer, and practitioner experiences.

Publications and Conferences

- Presented regularly since 2015 at national conferences, including ACWA, Child Aware, AIFS.
- Many oral and [written submissions](#) to inquiries including Royal Commission into institutional child sexual abuse and various parliamentary inquiries.

Research Partnerships

- Consulted on research about perspectives of parents who had children removed (2017-18). Report: [No voice no opinion nothing](#)
- Partner in research about PPSP (2019 ongoing). [AIFS poster presentation](#)
- Co-founder of FISH completed a Churchill Fellowship on parent and family peer advocacy internationally; informs FISH practice. [Report](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

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W: <https://finclusionh.org/peer-services/>

Fb: <https://www.facebook.com/familyinclusionhunter/>