

Communities and Justice

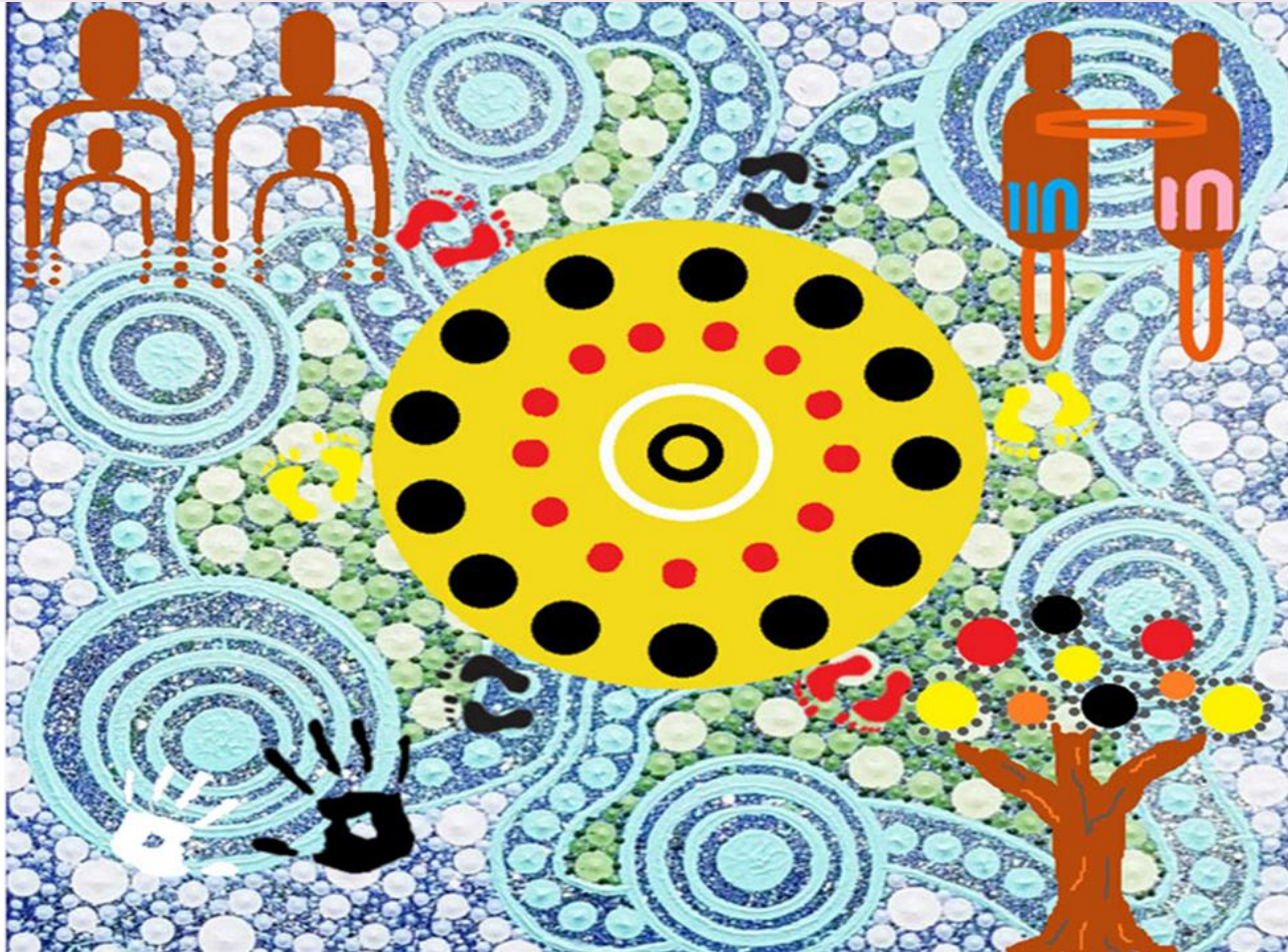
Family Preservation Recommissioning

Sector Forum

4 December 2024



Acknowledgment of Country



We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the First Nations Peoples of NSW and pay our respects to Elders past, present, and future.

We also acknowledge that family is the cornerstone of Aboriginal culture, spirituality and identity.

Through our work we will strive to ensure Aboriginal children and young people grow up safe and cared for in family, community and culture.

Housekeeping

- **Facilitator:** Briana Jurgeit, Director Family Preservation and Child Protection.
- Welcome new attendees. For more information on Family Preservation Recommissioning, please visit the Family Preservation microsite.
- Please note the Family Preservation microsite will be updated post forum with information presented today, including the slide deck.



We are aware of new AI tools being used by some organisations that can be integrated with Microsoft Teams and enable features such as meeting recording. Please be mindful of these features being automatically enabled as **these meetings should not be recorded**. Family Preservation's protocol is to remove AI bots from the meeting.

Today's update

Agenda Item	Topic
1	Family Preservation Recommissioning Update
2	Family Preservation Contract Variations and Transition Preparation
3	InfoShare update
4	Interim changes to assessing risk in Child Protection – Practice guidance
5	Peaks Update
6	On the horizon

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Family Preservation Re-commissioning update

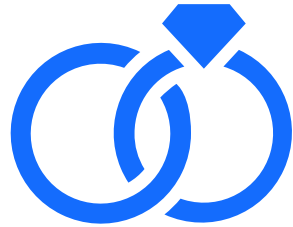
Briana Jurgeit

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Family Preservation Contract Variations and Transition Preparation

Briana Jurgeit

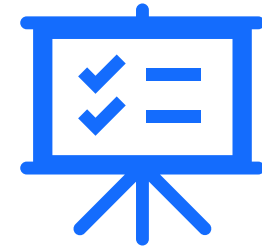
Family Preservation Contracts Variations



DCJ has in principle approval to vary Family Preservation contracts for a **further 9 months**, from 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026.



The contracts variations will also include new clauses so that providers and DCJ can best support clients, providers and their staff, throughout the transition to the new service system.



Early next year the Family Preservation program team will brief district DCJ Commissioning teams on the new clauses prior to releasing accompanying communication material for service providers.

Family Preservation Contracts Variations

- No action is required from Family Preservation service providers this year.
- Family Preservation service providers will have their contracts extended by 9 months.
- Executed by a Letter of Variation for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026
- The extension allows DCJ and providers time to prepare for procurement of future Family Preservation services and the transition to the new system design.

Contracts variations will apply to:

- Family Preservation (formerly Brighter Futures and Youth Hope)
- Intensive Family Preservation (IFP)
- Intensive Family Based Services (IFBS)
- Resilient Families (RF)
- Multi Systemic Therapy for Child Abuse and Neglect (MST- CAN)
- Functional Family Therapy – Child Welfare (FFT-CW)
- Permanency Support Program – Family Preservation (PSP-FP)
- Nabu

We will use the contracts variations and other levers to support the transition to the future system.

New clauses are designed to support effective transition from current system to new system

As part of transition, we are seeking to:

- **Minimise disruption** to service provision whilst maintaining consistent support for families.
- Ensure **seamless collaboration** between DCJ and providers for smooth and effective transition of services.
- Ensure **clear and timely communication** with stakeholders, including service providers, DCJ, and families, to build confidence and transparency.
- Establish **clear governance structures** to oversee the transition, ensuring accountability, decision-making clarity, and effective risk management.
- **Support provider readiness** by ensuring that service providers have the necessary resources to effectively implement the new system.
- Safeguard the integrity of **data and records** to ensure continuity of care and support.
- **Maintain performance outcomes** during the transition to avoid any dip in service quality.

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InfoShare

Tod Brealey, infoShare team

Kylie Davison – Child and Family – System Reform Division

infoShare Update

Data quality is improving every submission.

Based on some observations for those doing bulk uploads, we have put together a check list to help with troubleshooting:

- Delete the instructions sheet, the reference sheet and any sheet specific instructions.
- Organisations name must be exactly as it appears in infoShare (even a typo will stop it loading)
- Outlet Activity IDs must match the outlet activity IDs in infoShare
- Use commas (not colons or semi colons) in the fields that have multi entries, e.g. families
- Only use allowable fields (make sure they match the reference sheet)
- Remove any macros, formulas or filters
- Remove any extra columns that you may have created for cutting and pasting etc.
- If you say 'Yes' to disability, there must be a disability type added (using comma if adding multiple entries)
- Check that all clients are in families, and all families are in referrals, and all referrals have service records (except where they are declined by either party)
The flow of the data is: Client->families->referrals->Services.
- Date must be in the "DD/MM/YYYY" format in the upload file. Other formats will be rejected.
- If you are copying and pasting data for any reason, please ensure you are pasting values only (and then format it to needed format later).
- Remove any additional sheets that you have added. Check that you haven't hidden any. (check right click on any of the sheets (tabs); if you see unhide, there are hidden sheets)
- Do not change the name of the sheets, they need to be the exact same spelling as in the template. Download the latest version of the template in resources section of infoShare Instruct.



infoShare key contacts

Please contact FamilyPreservation@dcj.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions related to Family Preservation programs or the infoShare communications.

Please contact infoShare@dcj.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions about data submission, data fields, platform access etc.

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Interim Changes to Assessing Risk in Child Protection

Briana Jurgait

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Peaks Update

fams, AbSec, ACWA

Peaks Update – FAMS, AbSec, ACWA



ACWA Update



ACWA Annual Report <https://www.acwa.asn.au/about/annual-reports/>

ACWA and Fams Practice Governance Framework - <https://www.acwa.asn.au/acwa-fams-model-practice-governance-framework/>

Recent submissions and reports <https://www.acwa.asn.au/reports-and-submissions/> OOHC (Carer Utilisation; IPART review into OOHC costs), Drug Summit Submission.

ACWA Family Preservation Collaborative – Monthly, third Tuesday 3:30pm – 4:30pm, resuming 18 February 2025.

Contact: carolyn@acwa.asn.au 0498 956 933

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On the Horizon

Briana Jurgeit

On the horizon



Topic	Announcement
SNAICC: Family Matters 2024 Report Webinar (Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care)	Friday 6 December, 12pm–1pm (AEDT) https://www.snaicc.org.au/family-matters-2024-report-webinar-friday-6-december/
AIFS in partnership with NAPCAN Webinar: Preventing emotional abuse of children: The role of parenting support	Wednesday 18 December 2024, 1:00 – 2:00PM https://aifs.gov.au/webinars/preventing-emotional-abuse-children-role-parenting-support
DCJ Shutdown	23 rd December 2024 to 3 rd January 2025 Please refer to your district's staffing arrangements
Next Forum	February 5 th 2025
FACSIAR Lunch and Learns	The next Lunch and Learn is planned for February 2025. Please sign up to FACSIAR Lunch and Learn subscriber list to stay informed about upcoming Lunch and Learn webinars in 2025

How to get in touch

For all enquiries please:

Email us: FamilyPreservation@dcj.nsw.gov.au

If you would like to be added to our communications distribution list and to receive these forum invitations, please subscribe to our mailing list:

<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/service-providers/deliver-services-to-children-and-families/family-preservation/communications-and-engaging-with-us.html>

