

# Seaford District Community Children's Centre Professional Development Days 2023 Port Noarlunga Surf Life Saving Club

Our **UNITED VOICE - SEAFORD DISTRICT COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTRE INC COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT 2021** agreement with our Management Committee has embedded the culture of ongoing learning, professionalism, and cohesion of the teams and the quality of service.

Each year Seaford District Community Children's Centre **closes for 2 days of Professional Development** for the Long Day Care and Out of School Hours Care teams. 2023 will see our 8th annual 2-day professional development. We value these professional development days that provide for our team's ongoing learning and support our service quality.

We choose the first Friday and second Monday of the **July school holidays** each year for closure, as this is commonly a quieter period of the year to reduce the impact on working families.

## Day 1 Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Session 1: 9.00 am – 10.30 am

### Kuma Kaaru

**Presenter - Cliffy 'Tangku Munaitya' Wilson - a proud Kurna, Narungga, Ngarrindjeri, Ngadjuri and Arrente Man**



Founded in education, Kuma Kaaru (One Blood) brings stories and tradition to life through training and performance. Operating on Kurna Yarta (Land), the Kuma Kaaru team take pride in their Cultural Awareness training for organisations and schools, performing Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremonies and Cultural dance.

### **9.00 am Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony**

Smoking Ceremonies are used for burial, celebration, healing and cleansing. They are also a gesture of goodwill and bringing people together. Performing smoking for another is a gift and a blessing.

### **9.30 am – 10.30 am Workshop - Cultural dance**

Traditional Dance is a fundamental aspect of Aboriginal Culture, playing a significant role in Spirituality. Traditional Aboriginal Dance tells stories of the ancestors, which have been passed down through the generations, vibrantly connecting the land, spirit, sea and skies.

### **Relationships, respect, and reconciliation**

All children in Australia have the right to access and receive quality education and care regardless of their socio-economic background, culture, religion, or gender. The importance of recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the nation's first

people, and their contribution made as individuals and groups to the Australian community must be embedded in the curriculum as part of Seaford District Community Children's Centre's cultural competence regardless of the cultural demographic of the service. This is the LAW. The National Quality Framework provides a context to challenge bias, discuss and practice ethical behaviour with children and families. It values equity, inclusion, and diversity.

Cultural competence is much more than awareness of cultural differences. It is the ability to understand, respect, communicate with and effectively interact with people across cultures (Framework, p.5). Seaford District Community Children's Centre staff team has an ongoing interest in exploring and appreciating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. This includes understanding the impact the white colonisation of Australia has had and still has on Aboriginal Australians today. As educators of future generations of Australians, it is incumbent on us to do the research and learning that supports reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-indigenous peoples. With our Professional Development days, the week following NAIDOC Week, and the Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum to be decided, it is another opportunity for the team to continue to grow, learn and develop as educators and then alongside children and families. As we immerse ourselves in Kurna culture, Kuma Kaaru will inspire us.

Session 2: 11.00 am – 12.00 pm

### **Painting with Luke Hunter**

**Presenter – Early Childhood Teacher and Artist - Luke Hunter**



Luke Hunter is an Oil painter living on Kurna Land whose distinctive style captures and portrays the turbulence inherent in mental health. "I use those images to best communicate how I felt, and explain to others. Now I'm painting trying to help other people" Luke, uses humour and darkness to send a message through his graphic pieces. Luke experiments with texture and text to create pieces that confuse and delight. His art reflects a modern-day interpretation of the neo-expressionist movement from New York in the late eighties and early nineties.

Luke is also a passionate educator for young children at Seaford District Community Children's Centre. He brings his imagination to working with children encouraging them to explore different mediums and delight in the process of creating. Luke brings children's attention to people, nature, and shape. He creates art installations and aesthetically pleasing learning environments.



### **Workshop – Self Portrait**

Luke will lead the team through art history, and art styles. Team members will be provided with acrylic paints, paintbrushes, and canvas. Under Luke's tutorage, we will explore how to create a self-portrait. Including painting techniques, highlights, shadows,

dimensions, and colour pallets.

As adults working with children, it is imperative to remain connected to our own creativity and self-expression and understand that the process of creating is more meaningful than the product. In education, this theory is known as process art vs product art.

Many adults turn away from their innate creativity because as children the focus was on the end result. This undermines creativity and discourages independence, self-motivation, and other skills. This will be an exciting learning opportunity for our educators to reflect on their own expectations of creativity and how they express this to children through their practice.

### **Team stability supports the development of strong attachments and relationships between children, educators, and families.**

National Quality Standards: Quality Area 4 *Staffing Arrangements* (4.2.1) Management, educators, and staff work with mutual respect and collaboratively, and challenge and learn from each other, recognising each other's strengths and skills.

Session 3: Zoom Workshop 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm

### **Community Child Care Association Inc.**

#### **Presenter – Early childhood consultant - Caitlin Mason**



Caitlin uses her background in early education and studies in psychology to understand different personalities, help leaders build strong teams and meet the needs of all educators. As a former Inclusion Professional, she supported hundreds of services across Victoria, which gave her a wealth of experience in guiding children's behaviour.

#### **Workshop - Team building, Nurturing your dream team**

Learn the key characteristics of a vibrant, engaged and connected team.

Discover what collaborative relationships look like, and how they'll help you create a better working environment for staff.

Understand the role of the ECA Code of Ethics and Professional Standards in maintaining strong teams.

Learn how to inspire the team to build positive working relationships and get everyone on board with changes to practice.

*National Quality Standards: Quality Area 4 Staffing Arrangements (NQS 4.2.2), QA6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities (NQS 6.2.3) & Quality Area 7 Governance and Leadership (NQS 7.2).*

*This Code of Ethics is informed by the principles in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1991) and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007). A Code of Ethics is an aspirational framework for reflection about the ethical*

responsibilities of childhood professionals who work with, or on behalf, of children and their families.

## Day 2 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Session 1: Face-to-Face Workshop 9.00 am – 11.00 am

### Developing Minds Psychology & Education

Presenter - Clinical Psychologist - Kirrilie Smout



Kirrilie has a Master's degree in clinical psychology and over 15 years she has worked with several hundred children, young people and adults in counselling. She is the director of Developing Minds where she employs 20 child and adolescent psychologists working to support kids and teens. She publishes a fortnightly newsletter for parents, carers and professionals and has published 2 books, *When Life Sucks for Teens* and *When Life Sucks for Kids*. Developing Minds support kids and teens with Adolescent Issues,

Anxiety / Panic Attacks, Autism / Aspergers, Behavioural Issues, Childhood Issues, Depression, Disability, Eating Disorders, Emotional Overwhelm, Family / Parenting, Learning Disabilities, Obsessive Compulsive, Self-Development, Social Skills, Stress Management, Suicidal Feelings

### Workshop - Child Mental Health and Well Being

Helping professionals understand issues related to child mental health, and to be aware of practical strategies to use to support children (and their parents/caregivers) dealing with anxiety, trauma and challenging behaviour. Including:

- Most common mental health concerns and conditions for children
- Causal factors and influences on child mental health
- The most influential practical strategies in supporting children (and families) with emotional and mental health concerns

*National Quality Standards: Quality Area 2 Children's Health and Safety (NQS Standard 2.1) 4 Staffing Arrangements (NQS Standards 4.1 and 4.2)*

*Belonging, Being and Becoming – The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia', Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing, pp. 30 and Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations [DEEWR]. (2009)*

*'My Time, Our Place – Framework for School Age Care in Australia', Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing, pp.29.*

Day 2 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Session 2: Face-to-Face Workshop 11.30 am - 4.00 pm (Lunch 1.30 pm - 2.00 pm)

## **The Phoenix Cups Workplace Wellbeing**

**Presenter – Author & Keynote speaker - Christopher Phoenix**



Christopher is the co-author of the Phoenix Cups book - [\*\*The Phoenix Cups: A Cup Filling Story.\*\*](#) He tours Australia and beyond delivering the Phoenix Cups model through a highly entertaining Workplace Wellbeing workshop and keynote presentation. Christopher is currently undertaking his PhD in Philosophy.

He has appeared on Australia's most popular national morning television show Sunrise, has featured as the Commonwealth Bank's Australian of the Day, been interviewed on national radio station Triple M, and has been the subject of numerous national and international newspaper articles.

### **The Phoenix Cups Workplace Wellbeing Workshop -**

This workshop will simultaneously entertain and educate educator teams. With the whole team engaged, Christopher spends the first hour illustrating the power of your thinking, how our unhelpful thoughts can affect our world, and what we can do about it. We will learn about the Phoenix Cups, determine what our Cups profile is, and learn how to make effective Cup Filing Plans. Christopher talks about topics including work-life balance, and how to live a values-based life that aligns with your goals. The workshop provides the perfect combo of education and entertainment all rolled into one interactive and fun experience.

*National Quality Standards: Quality Area 4 Staffing Arrangements (NQS 4.2), QA6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities (NQS 6.2) & Quality Area 7 Governance and Leadership (NQS 7.2).*

*The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia & My Time Our Place - Principle 5 - Ongoing learning and reflective practice. 'Educators continually seek ways to build their professional knowledge and develop learning communities'. 'Reflective practice is a form of ongoing learning that involves engaging with questions of philosophy, ethics and practice. Its intention is to gather information and gain insights that support, inform and enrich decision-making.'*