



**Centre for Excellence  
in Child and Family Welfare Inc.**

## **Media release**

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### **Resi care workers to rock the G this Thursday**

More than 350 residential care workers who look after some of the State's most vulnerable children will converge on the MCG this Thursday 2 June (from 9.30am) for the fifth annual Resi Rocks event auspiced by the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare.

Resi ROCKS "Thank God You're Here!" highlights the importance of how good relationships with carers are crucial if children and young people are to achieve significant developmental milestones while in State care. Many young people in our care system have experienced high degrees of trauma and providing a professionally informed response is critical to their needs and to sustain our workforce.

"The relationship with carers is fundamental, just as it is for children and young people not in State care in their relationship with their parents. A life story is not something we write on our own, but ideally in a nurturing and positive relationship with others," said Dr Lynette Buoy, chief executive of the Centre, today.

A keynote by Richard Rose of the UK's Mary Walsh Institute will highlight the potential of a life stories approach in filling gaps in the personal stories of traumatised children and young people, nurturing their identities, and helping them to recover through a clearer understanding of their past experiences of abuse and neglect.

A highlight of the event will be the presentation of carer awards by Child Safety Commissioner Bernie Geary acknowledging excellence in residential care for vulnerable children and young people. The awards give the residential care sector an opportunity to celebrate and encourage excellence and innovation in an area that is historically poorly resourced and under-rewarded.

"Like the Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children Inquiry, this event will contribute ideas for solutions in residential care. It's great to see the workers leading those solutions as they send a message to children and young people in care that their outcomes matter.

Stand-up comedian Rachel Berger will MC the event. MCG event coordinator Melanie Miller should be contacted on 9284 2372 to facilitate media access to the venue.

**For interview:**

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