

Uniting together

Uniting WA Impact Report.



Zoe often arrives at counselling stressed and unsettled. Yesterday, the counsellor took her to the new outdoor space where they played four square. The session was so much better. We're thrilled to have this space that's perfect for kids like Zoe.



Kerry, Specialist Children's Counsellor

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Stan Perron
Charitable
Foundation
volunteers at
CAFTS.



Small things, big impact.

All children have the right to be supported in a nurturing environment where they feel safe, valued and heard but unfortunately, that isn't always the case.

Over the year, we've done small things that have had a big impact on the children we support. We wanted to share some of these with you.

Some of the children and young people who access Uniting WA services have experienced trauma associated with child sexual abuse. Others face the prospect of not being able to live in their family home due to situations beyond their control. They can be left feeling confused, frightened and alone and the families can face worry, shame and disconnection.

We believe that by empowering children, young people and families to heal from their past trauma, they can reach their full potential.

The Child and Family Therapeutic Services (CAFTS) team provide much needed support to children, young people and families through individual counselling and support groups. Our **Out-Of-Home Care (OOHC) services** - Group Foster Care (Family Group Homes), Community Foster Care and Temporary Foster Care - provide safe spaces for children and young people to recover and thrive.

"The children were excited about being able to fully express their feelings with our new bop bags."

Caris,
Children's Counsellor

The outdoor space for CAFTS has been reinvigorated thanks to the generous assistance of The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation volunteers and donated items, creating a new counselling space for the children and counsellors.

Your support has also enabled us to purchase more therapeutic resources for children across our services, from weighted blankets for children in Foster Care, to books and sensory toys for parents and children in our therapy services.

We have secured more Group Foster Care houses meaning we can support more children. Thanks to you and Toybox Australia, we have been able to furnish the houses not just with the essentials but with special additions such as basketball hoops so the children can take space, play and engage with each other.

It's not just materials that we've been able to provide but new memories too. Thanks to Carnival Amusements, children in Foster Care had a fabulous time at the Perth Winter Fest.

Enjoying
Winter Fest.



**“The kids are loving it,
they think they’re in
the NBA.”**

Michael, Therapeutic Coach

We couldn’t have done everything we did for our children this year without you. Your support has been instrumental in providing the children who access our services with the tools to not just survive but thrive.



Foster care child,
Reuben, and his first
bike.

Strengthening families.

Intensive Family Support (IFS) assists parents to develop parenting skills and improve family function to create a safe, nurturing environment for their children.

Ellie was referred to our Intensive Family Support in the Peel region in April 2024 for support with parenting, routines, management of her physical and mental health, as well as education regarding family domestic violence (FDV).

Ellie presented with severe anxiety, and it was clear she was being financially and physically abused by her partner. She had been injured on multiple occasions and she became concerned for the safety of her three children.

With your support, we were able to provide extra funding support to relocate Ellie and her children to stable housing.

We have also been able to provide support to a single mum with two boys, Janelle, who was trying to get back on her feet after escaping domestic violence. Janelle’s washing machine broke down and, with your support, we helped her purchase a new machine so she could focus on her boys.

There was a **13%**
increase in FDV-related
offences in WA from 2022–23.

In the last year, we’ve supported
355 families and their
children across the Fremantle,
Rockingham and Peel region.



Got **mumness**
or **dadness** to
spare?

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**Open your hearts and minds
to kids in need.**

We provide a specialised foster care service that connects foster carers in Perth with children and young people who aren't able to live in their family home and who have high support needs due to experiences of illness, disability or trauma.

We're looking for amazing people like you to open their hearts and minds to kids in need.

To learn more about fostering with Uniting WA, search 'Uniting WA Foster Care' or email us at fostercare@unitingwa.org.au.

The Path Home.

The Path Home is an interactive photography exhibition that goes beyond the headlines of homelessness, sharing the stories of seven West Australians who are each at different stages on their journey out of homelessness.

Through personal storytelling and the work of celebrated WA photographer, Jarrad Seng, The Path Home highlights how the journey out of homelessness looks different to everyone but the message - and the solution - is clear: with funded supports all along the housing continuum, people can move beyond homelessness and achieve transformational change in their lives.

You can view the exhibition in business hours at QV1 Perth from 26 August to 13 September or head to unitingwa.org.au to learn more.



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unitingwa.org.au