



# Community carers needed

## What is a Community Carer?

A Community Carer is someone who a Child in Care can stay with if it is not safe for them at home.

Community Carers can provide short or long term care for a child.



## What do Community Carers do?

Community Carers give children within their community a safe place to stay.

Staying with a Community Carer gives children from culturally similar backgrounds a chance to stay connected to their culture until it is time to return to their own family.

Some children who need Community Carers have a lot of problems and big feelings because their lives have been difficult. Community Carers can help them on their journey.

Community Carers also help children to keep seeing their family while they watch out for them.

## Who can be a Community Carer?

Anyone can apply to be a Community Carer. You must have an open heart and be willing to help.

You will get a Working with Children Check and a criminal record check. We will also meet with you to talk about how you can care for a child in your home.

You can be married or single.

It doesn't matter if you have your own children or not or whether you're working or not.



## How will the Department help me?

The Department of Communities will give you money to look after a Child in Care. This is called subsidy and won't affect Centrelink payments or your wages.

To apply or find out more information please contact the **Fostering and Family Care team** at the Department of Communities on **1800 182 178**