Author name: Name suppressed

Date of submission: Tuesday, 4 June 2024

Your submission for this review:

I am a case manager for children in OOHC. Many children in OOHC have significant additional needs from the trauma of abuse/neglect and removal. They require more intensive therapeutic supports such as occupational therapy, speech therapy, creative therapies and talk therapy (psychology/counselling). Many of them do not qualify for NDIS however, so the carers and agencies pay for these costs when required. Many of our foster carers are precluded from full time employment as the time and effort required to therapeutically parent is significant, and they prioritise the children's needs over their own ability to earn income. The effects of trauma manifested in intensely heightened dysregulated behaviours affects foster carers who handle the brunt of this, and agencies provide significant therapeutic supports around carer self-care to maintain stability and security of placements.