

# THE OSHC CONFERENCE 2024



TUESDAY 28 MAY & WEDNESDAY 29 MAY  
9.45AM—2.30PM  
ONLINE EVENT — JOIN FROM ANYWHERE!

Often, conferences in the education and care space focus only on early childhood. **NOT THIS ONE!**



BOOK YOUR EARLY BIRD TICKET NOW!

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Community Child Care Association (CCC) acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of this nation and the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work. We recognise their continuing connection to culture, land, water and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present. We acknowledge the strength of family connection and kinship within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and their ongoing dedication to educating and caring for children. Sovereignty of these lands was never ceded.



Artwork by Yorta Yorta and Gunnai artist Dixon Patten. It depicts the cultural learning journey Community Child Care Association is on.





## DAY ONE, TUESDAY 28 MAY 2024

**9.45am**

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

**Nartarsha Bamblett\***

*Cultural Educator and Consultant – Queen Acknowledgements*

### **Introduction and welcome**

**Julie Price**

*Executive Director – Community Child Care Association*

**10.00am**

### **KEYNOTE: A yarn with Eddie\***

**Eddie Betts**

*AFL legend, children's author and Founder/Director – Eddie Betts Foundation*

Eddie's life story is a masterclass in resilience and determination. Most of you will know Eddie as an AFL superstar. However, his journey to the top was heavily impacted by racism and discrimination – and it didn't stop, even when he became a recognised champion. Eddie's experience lit a fire in his belly, and post-AFL it's become his passion to help First Nations children to tell a different story...

At the end of the session, there will be a Q&A. By yarning with Eddie, educators will gain insight into the incredible ability they have as role models to inspire and empower every child to achieve their goals.

**11.00am**

### **LIGHTNING TALK: Understanding 'attention-seeking' behaviour: What's really going on?**

**Trent Savill**

*Director and Consultant Therapist – Complex Care*

Trusting adults and directly cuing them about their needs for support is something that many children with trauma have great difficulty with. This often results in them connecting with adults in ways that is commonly mistaken as 'attention-seeking'. These behaviours can be challenging to manage, particularly in an OSHC setting where children's needs are so diverse.

Kicking off the Lightning Talks, Trent will provide educators with his framework for reinterpreting 'attention-seeking' through an attachment lens. He will also walk through applying the framework practically, guiding educators' responses to 'attention-seeking' and helping them understand how to reduce the frequency and intensity of occurrences.

11.15am

### **LIGHTNING TALK: Workforce planning: What is it and why is it important**

**Lucy Harberts and Caitlin Mason**

*Professional Support Consultants – Community Child Care Association*

How frequently do you find yourself searching for a relief educator to cover shifts? Too often? You'll want to be all ears for this session.

CCC familiar faces Caitlin and Lucy will introduce 'workforce planning' – a proven strategy for attracting and retaining quality staff. Don't worry if this is a totally new concept to you. Caitlin and Lucy have must-know tips for reducing your turnover, recruitment and agency costs.

11.30am

### **LIGHTNING TALK: Going above and beyond: Engaging with Exceeding Rhonda Livingstone**

*National Education Leader and General Manager of the Leadership – Quality and Regulatory Support Group, ACECQA*

Is one of your goals for your service to achieve an Exceeding rating? 11% of OSHC services have this rating and with the right guidance and support, every OSHC service can find ways to improve their practice. As the National Authority, ACECQA provides a range of resources and guidance materials to support the sector in meeting and exceeding the NQS. ACECQA's National Education Leader can support you in this process.

11.45am

### **LIGHTNING TALK: Play as pedagogy**

**Kylie Keane**

*Playworker Advocate and Consultant – Keen About*

If you've got a keen eye, you might have noticed that 'playwork' has been added to *My Time, Our Place* 2.0.

... but what exactly is it?

Join Kylie – an award-winning advocate for playwork – as she walks you through the theory, key concepts and terminology of this practice. Following this energising session, you'll walk away inspired with practical tips for intentionally introducing (or extending!) playwork at your program.

12.00pm

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

#### **Same presenters from Lightning Talks**

Did one of the above sessions particularly pique your interest?

Each Lightning Talk presenter will be running a 30 minute workshop to further break down their topic of expertise.

Stuck on who to choose?

**CCC members will get exclusive access to all of the session recordings and a member-only discount on their conference ticket. Sound like a deal?**

**BECOME A CCC MEMBER NOW!**

## DAY ONE, continued

12.30pm

### Lunchtime!

1.15pm

### PRESENTATION: Re-imagining future childhoods

**Dr Bruce Hurst**

*Award-winning OSHC researcher*

**A/P Jennifer Cartmel**

*Creator of My Time, Our Place*

2023's attendees had nothing but high praise for Bruce and Jennifer – so of course we had to invite these trailblazers back in 2024!

Bruce and Jennifer want to change common beliefs – or 'images' – of childhood. Traditionally, most pedagogies view children through a deficit lens, meaning they position educators to correct children's weaknesses before focusing on nurturing their individual strengths. But not Bruce and Jennifer. They think it is time to retire this old way of thinking and introduce something totally new.

Their session will cover two emerging images of childhood from the updated *My Time, Our Place* – explaining the research behind these additions and inspiring educators to imagine transformative futures for their service.

2.15pm

### Day one wrap-up

Together, we'll recap the day one highlights!

2.30pm

### Day one concludes







## DAY TWO, WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2024

**9.45am**

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

*Children from OSHC services across Australia*

### **Welcome back**

**Daniela Kavoukas**

*Services Manager – Community Child Care Association*

**10.00am**

### **KEYNOTE: All children are poets until they're eight years old\***

**John Marsden**

*Globally-acclaimed author and Principal – Alice Miller School*

Yes – it's THAT John Marsden!

International bestseller John Marsden's passion for education has not waned in five decades. Alongside his enormous success as an author, John is also the founder and principal of Alice Miller School – a school which makes its own rules in the Macedon Ranges.

John firmly believes that play is the essential work of children and a 'rehearsal' for a successful adult life. He rejects what he calls the 'major problems' of the 21st century – unhealthy obsessions with rules, neatness and material possessions – that limit children's lives. You'll be inspired by his passion for programs that enable risk, adventure and the freedom of each child's inner person.

**11.00am -  
11.45am**

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS: 11.00am - 11.45am**

#### **BREAKOUT 1: Understanding child mental health and childhood bullying**

##### **Emerging Minds**

Bullying is a common childhood experience. However, it is not 'a normal part of growing up' nor is it 'just something kids do'. The effects of bullying on child mental health and wellbeing can be significant, both for those being bullied and those engaging in bullying behaviour. Children who engage in bullying behaviour are often doing so as a response to their environment, which can include challenges at home such as family and domestic violence or poverty.

All OSHC professionals share the responsibility of keeping an eye on bullying at their services and having the confidence to respond to and prevent it. Attendees of this session will take several practical strategies back to their service, including increased confidence to spot signs of bullying, what to do when it occurs, and how to have impactful conversations about bullying with children, families and colleagues.

### **BREAKOUT 2: OSHC Professional Standards for Management and Leadership**

**Kylie Brannelly**

*Chief Executive Officer – Queensland Children's Activities Network (QCAN)*

Attention all OSHC managers and leaders (both present and future!) – would you like to enhance your OSHC leadership skills with advice from one of OSHC's most respected professionals?

Kylie will explore the Professional Standards for Management and Leadership via real case studies relevant to each of the seven standards. Attendees will be guided through developing strategies and opportunities for team career progression, learn how to undertake self-assessment to inform performance improvement, and have the chance to take part in a professional learning community through a 'community of practice' framework.

No matter where you are in your career, you will definitely find value in this session.

### **BREAKOUT 3: Inclusion ready: Planning for an inclusive environment** **Victorian Inclusion Agency (VIA)**

Joining us for the third breakout session will be a panel of Inclusion Professionals (IPs) who'll discuss the most innovative strategies and impactful inclusive practices they've seen on their visits to OSHC services. They'll come prepared with photos and guidelines that will inspire you to think as big as the universe about what can be done at your service. Make sure you've got a good pen and a note pad ready.

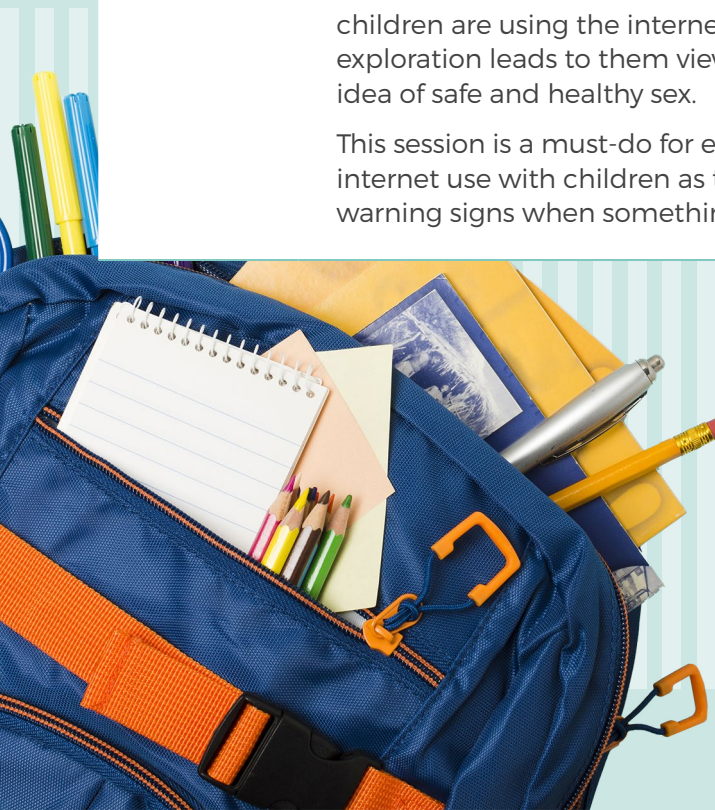
### **BREAKOUT 4: eSafety knowledge in OSHC**

**Deanne Carson**

*CEO and Founder – Body Safety Australia*

The fast pace of new technologies emerging has both its benefits and challenges in OSHC. Unfortunately, children aged between nine and twelve are in the most vulnerable cohort for technology-based child sexual exploitation. Additionally, children are using the internet to explore sex, relationships and sexuality. Often their exploration leads to them viewing pornography, which can dramatically skew their idea of safe and healthy sex.

This session is a must-do for educators wanting to understand how to navigate internet use with children as they mature and how to look for the (not so obvious) warning signs when something isn't right.



**Don't forget, if you are a CCC member you will have access to ALL breakout sessions. This way you won't miss a thing!**

11.45am

### **PANEL: How to retain an education workforce during challenging times**

**Facilitated by Lucy Harberts, Professional Consultant, CCC**

*Leaders from various OSHC services*

OSHC professionals know their own reality better than anyone else does. That's why when you told us that – overwhelmingly – workforce retention is one of the biggest challenges of the job, we took you seriously. Between them, Sharon and Katie, are very worldly-wise about all things OSHC and maintaining a team of experienced and reliable educators. They'll share their no-nonsense approach to making it work.

12.30pm

### **Lunchtime!**

1.10pm

### **Spotlight on CCC member service**

*Swan Hill OSHC, CCC member*

1.20pm

### **Plenary: Indigenous Knowledge – what is it?**

**Associate Professor Corey Tutt OAM**

*Author and Founder/CEO – DeadlyScience*

Corey has made it his mission in life to show young Indigenous people that STEM is for them. Since before colonial settlement, First Nations people have used Indigenous Knowledge, developed over tens of thousands of years, to inform how they interacted with and cared for Country.

In this hour-long session, educators will develop (or build on!) their understandings of what Indigenous Knowledge is, how it differs from Western science and how to respect and celebrate it. Corey will also provide strategies for educators to help them embed it into learning environments in ways that are appropriate and culturally safe.

2.30pm

### **Wrap up, thank you and close**







## COMPLIMENTARY IN-PERSON EVENTS

### **FREE TOUR: John Marsden's Alice Miller School (Candlebark P-7 campus)**

**Monday 27 May 2024, 9.45am – 11.30am**  
**Romsey, Victoria**

*First in, best dressed – as these are complimentary, spots are limited (max two people per service)!*

Join John Marsden – globally acclaimed author and alternative school principal – for an exclusive tour at his one-of-a-kind Candlebark Primary!

Candlebark was founded upon the belief that it takes a village to raise a child. The 'village' is a community of 'elders' who are knowledgeable, experienced, good-humoured and imaginative – all attributes which contribute profoundly to the positive development of children.

By attending a tour of John's ground-breaking school, educators will gain invaluable insights into risky play, outdoor nature experiences and boundary-free learning environments. By seeing these practices in action, educators will feel inspired to enrich their teaching methods, enhance the learning experiences of children and create environments that promote creativity, independence and a genuine love of learning.

### **TWILIGHT NETWORKING EVENT**

**Tuesday 28 May 2024, 6.30pm – 8.30pm**  
**North Melbourne Primary OSHC**

Join Sharon, her team and some special guests at North Melbourne Primary OSHC for a panel discussion and a chance to mingle with some OSHC peers. The panel will chat about:

- How to ensure children have a voice in your service
- How to manage staff wellbeing challenges
- How to attract and retain high-quality staff
- How to work with the wider community
- How to maintain a healthy relationship between your OSHC service and the school

*Finger food and non-alcoholic refreshments will be provided.*

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### **Eddie Betts\***

**AFL legend, children's author, and Founder/  
Director – Eddie Betts Foundation**

Eddie – a Gubrun, Wirangu and Kokatha man – is one of Australia's most decorated sporting champions. Though Eddie's story is one of great success, his journey to the top of the game wasn't easy. Behind the scenes, he faced years of racism and discrimination. These experiences are what inspired him to start the Eddie Betts Foundation – a not-for-profit with the goal of helping First Nations youth overcome the barriers between them and their goals. So far, the foundation has started a basketball program, a football academy, an educational program, a community program and a mentoring program. At the OSHC Conference, Eddie will share his remarkable journey so far, empowering and inspiring educators to feel confident supporting children to realise that nothing is impossible.



### **Associate Professor Corey Tutt OAM**

**Author and Founder/CEO – DeadlyScience**

As a child, proud G/Kamilaroi man Corey always dreamed of becoming a zookeeper, but in high school, he developed a love of STEM subjects. However, he soon discovered that there was very little encouragement for Aboriginal people to pursue careers in STEM. In 2018, while working as a university research assistant, Corey founded DeadlyScience. DeadlyScience is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to provide science books, telescopes and other resources to remote schools in Australia and to connect young Indigenous people with mentors to encourage their participation in STEM subjects.

In 2020, Corey was named the NSW Young Australian of the Year and a Human Rights Hero by the Australian Human Rights Commission. In 2021, DeadlyScience received the Australian Museum Eureka STEM Inclusion Prize, and in 2022 Corey received the Medal of the Order of Australia. His work through DeadlyScience has also attracted international attention, with Corey presenting at both Harvard and Oxford University. In 2024 and beyond, he will continue to work tirelessly to further the work of DeadlyScience and to show First Nations children that STEM is for them.



## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### John Marsden\*

#### Globally-acclaimed author and Principal – Alice Miller School

John Marsden is known internationally for his success as an author, perhaps most so for the *Tomorrow* series. Altogether, he has written and edited over forty books and his work has been translated into eleven different languages. From the time John was a student himself, he was thinking about how education should be done differently. One of the things that struck him most was the alienation between educators and students. After he finished school, John worked in many different jobs before arriving at teaching in his late 20s. His career in the classroom – where he noticed the lack of appealing literature for adolescents – inspired him to begin to write himself.

In 2006, John started Candlebark School, an alternative primary school in the Macedon Ranges where he is also the principal. He has since expanded and added an additional campus – Alice Miller for P-12. Both schools fall under the name Alice Miller School, with Candlebark catering for P-7. John's approach to education differs from a regular curriculum and his learning is creative, lively and purposefully challenging. He is a keen advocate for children 'getting their hands dirty', both literally and metaphorically. Candlebark School prides itself on its phenomenal success in graduating adventurous young people who possess authentic inner strength without an unhealthy obsession with matters like rules, neatness and material possessions.





## SPEAKER BIOS



### **Dr Bruce Hurst (he/him)**

#### **Award-winning OSHC researcher**

Bruce is a research fellow at the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne. He has worked in and with school-age programs for 25+ years and is one of a small number of researchers specialising in OSHC. Bruce's award-winning research has provided new ways of understanding the experiences of older primary children in OSHC. He is also the deputy chair of Community Child Care Association.



### **Caitlin Mason (she/her)**

#### **Professional Support Consultant – Community Child Care Association**

Caitlin uses her background in early education and studies in psychology to help leaders build strong teams and meet the needs of all educators. Prior to assuming her role as a consultant, Caitlin worked as an Inclusion Professional for over ten years and previously as an educator in long day care and OSHC for 9 years.



### **Daniela Kavoukas (she/her)**

#### **Service Delivery Manager – Community Child Care Association**

Daniela is a tenacious leader. Early on in her first director job, Daniela discovered her service was on the brink of closure. Through determination and strong leadership, she steered her community-owned co-op from struggle to success. Daniela's acumen as a talented educator was recognised when she was awarded the Inspirational Educator Award in 2013 and the National Teaching Award in 2014. She is also a former board member of the Children's Services Coordinators Association. Daniela is passionate about providing a voice for service directors and educators on the issues that matter to them.



### **Deanne Carson (she/her)**

#### **CEO and Founder – Body Safety Australia**

Deanne is the CEO and founder of Body Safety Australia, a charity established to promote childhoods free from violence where children enjoy equitable and respectful relationships. She is known for her work as a sexuality educator, researcher, speaker and author.

Deanne develops some of the country's most effective abuse prevention, consent and respectful relationships programs. Her team aspires to transformative cross-sector work that is evidence-based, inclusive and trauma-informed.

## SPEAKER BIOS Continued



### **Associate Professor Jennifer Cartmel**

#### **Creator of *My Time, Our Place***

Jennifer is a senior lecturer in Child, Youth and Family Practice at Griffith University. She completed her doctoral thesis on outside school hours care and is the creator of *My Time, Our Place*. Jennifer's research contributes to the professionalisation of the OSHC workforce, and she works closely with state governments and peak associations to deepen the understanding of school-age education and care in Australia.



### **Julie Price**

#### **Executive Director – Community Child Care Association**

Julie joined Community Child Care Association as project manager for the Victorian Inclusion Agency. In just six weeks Julie led the establishment of nine regional offices, the recruitment of 50 staff state-wide, and the operationalisation of the strategic plan. Now, as our Executive Director, and a skilled leader and manager, she draws on her studies in organisational psychology to lead CCC into its next phase of development. Her vision is to build on the strong history of CCC as a leader and advocate for not-for-profit and community-owned education and care services.



### **Katie Vickey-Howes**

#### **OSHC Coordinator/Educational Leader – Tyers Primary School OSHC**

Katie is an OSHC superstar, and is currently the OSHC Coordinator and Educational Leader at Tyers Primary School. Outside of work, she is kept busy with her studies toward a Graduate Certificate in Educational Neuroscience and a Double Bachelor Degree in Early Childhood Education and Primary Education.



### **Kylie Brannelly**

#### **CEO – Queensland Children's Activities Network (QCAN) and Chairperson of NOSHSA**

Kylie has worked in the education and care sector for over 30 years. Her experience includes policy analysis, advocacy, advisory roles to government, resource development, training and program evaluation and sitting on the committee that oversaw the development of *My Time, Our Place*. She is also an experienced researcher who focuses on contemporary pedagogy, practice and professionalism through an OSHC lens. She has presented her work at both national and international forums.

## SPEAKER BIOS Continued



### **Kylie Keane**

#### **Playworker and Consultant – Keen About**

Kylie has been a part of the OSHC sector in Australia since she was a child and has since turned it into her career and passion. Kylie has been a passionate advocate for playwork for over 8 years and has travelled all over the world learning about the many benefits it presents for children, including giving them back their childhood. Kylie's commitment to embedding playwork at the OSHC where she works has seen the service achieve an Exceeding and an Excellence rating twice. This is a rare achievement for OSHC which has contributed to the recent inclusion of playwork in the updated *My Time, Our Place*.



### **Lucy Harberts (she/her)**

#### **OSHC Sector Development Expert – Community Child Care Association**

Lucy is a passionate advocate for a strong and vibrant community-based OSHC sector. She has over 27 years' experience – coordinating school-managed services, teaching at university, managing local government-operated services, and working and volunteering in environmental sustainability roles. Lucy is currently developing policy and guidance resources for the Department of Education and Training, and assisting schools to establish, manage and operate sustainable OSHC services in rural and regional communities.



### **Nartarsha Bamblett\* (she/her)**

#### **Cultural Educator and Consultant – Queen Acknowledgments**

Nartarsha is a proud Yorta Yorta, Gunai Kurnai, Wuradjeri and Walpiri woman. A fierce and authentic speaker, presenter, activist and educator, Natarsha is passionate about making an impact through connection to self, culture and Country. One of the ways she does so is by delivering unique and authentic Acknowledgements of Country that incorporate dance, song and soul. A privilege to witness, these Acknowledgements serve as a true representation of Indigenous culture, Country and ancestry.



### **Rhonda Livingstone (she/her)**

#### **General Manager of Leadership, Quality and Regulatory Authority Support and National Education Leader – ACECQA**

Rhonda started her career in preschools and long day care before using her expertise to assess, develop and deliver programs and services for both government and non-government organisations. Rhonda's sought after expertise saw her contribute to the development of the National Quality Standard and its guide, A & R and the training and testing of authorised assessment officers. She's also offered her wisdom as a sessional academic to the Queensland University of Technology. Rhonda is without a doubt one of the most qualified people in the country to offer advice on how to achieve an Exceeding rating.



## SPEAKER BIOS Continued



### **Sharon Goodwin**

#### **OSHC Coordinator – North Melbourne Primary School OSHC**

Sharon has been the Coordinator of North Melbourne Primary OSHC for over 15 years, meaning she knows the sector inside out! Recently, the provider expanded to include a second service on Molesworth Street, which Sharon also coordinates. In 2021, the Errol Street campus achieved Exceeding in all seven quality areas.



### **Trent Savill (he/him)**

#### **Director and Consultant Therapist – Complex Care**

Trent is the director of Complex Care – a practice that provides intensive in-home therapy to children and families with complex behavioural needs. He has over 20 years of experience working with complex and high-risk young people in the child-protection system, providing consultancy to the Department of Communities (Child Safety) and non-government sector, intensive in-home therapy to children and families, training to carers and professionals, and coordinating residential care programs.



### **Emerging Minds**

For over 20 years, Emerging Minds has been dedicated to advancing the mental health and emotional wellbeing of Australian infants, children, adolescents and their families. They develop mental health policy, interventions, training, programs and resources to meet the needs of professionals, children and their families, which are freely available online.



### **Victorian Inclusion Agency**

The Victorian Inclusion Agency (VIA) is led by Community Child Care in collaboration with KU and Yooralla, and is part of the Inclusion Support Program (ISP), an Australian Government funded program. The VIA supports services to identify and address any barriers and to build your inclusive practices. The Victorian Inclusion Agency offers free inclusion support to eligible education and care services, including long day care, family day care and outside school hours care services.



## TICKETING INFORMATION

Can you believe that you'll get to experience all of that over two invigorating days, and for such an affordable price?

**By the way – if you book early, it'll be discounted, and if you're a member, it'll be even further discounted!**

**PLUS members get access to available recordings!**

*Note: Sessions marked with an asterisk are not available as a recording.*

Here's the price break-down:

### MEMBERS

Early bird **\$139**

Non-early bird **\$179**

### NON-MEMBERS

Early bird **\$189**

Non-early bird **\$229**

Don't delay booking for too long... Early bird prices must close **29 March 2024!**

P.S., the optional (and FREE for ticketholders) in-person events detailed on page 9 will be first in, best dressed with numbers capped! We aren't expecting those events to remain available for long – so get in now!

**BOOK YOUR EARLY BIRD TICKET NOW!**

## HERE'S WHAT OUR 2023 ATTENDEES HAD TO SAY...

*"I would say that the conference is a fantastic way to collaborate and also learn and delve into creating new ideas" – Killara Kids Inc.*

*"The presenters are knowledgeable and I gained rich information about Aboriginal perspectives and how to make the service welcoming and inclusive and safe for First Nations people." – CCC member*

*"If you want to be professionally challenged, then attend the OSHC Conference" – Anonymous*

*"Very relevant & thought provoking"  
– DET SEVR regional office*



## ABOUT US

Community Child Care Association (CCC) is a peak body for outside school hours care and the Victorian branch of the National Outside School Hours Services Alliance (NOSHSA ). We equip OSHC educators and leaders like you with the skills you need to navigate your role with confidence and support all children to thrive. We support OSHC members across the country with professional development and resources, and are a voice in their corner on the issues that matter most.

Join CCC or find out more at [www.cccinc.org.au](http://www.cccinc.org.au)

