

## Heal communities to reduce the number of child removals

Embedding healing initiatives in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities will help to reduce the number of Indigenous children in out of home care, according to the Healing Foundation.

Discussing improved outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children at the 2015 Child Aware Approaches Conference this morning, Healing Foundation CEO Richard Weston will consider his organisation's involvement in the *Family Matters — Kids safe in culture, not in care* national initiative and the importance of community "healing champions".

The Healing Foundation is a proud partner of *Family Matters — Kids safe in culture, not in care*, which aims to halve the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children removed from their families and culture by 2018. *Family Matters* is led by the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) and driven by a National Coordinating Group comprised of CEOs and chairs of peak Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal organisations, including the Healing Foundation.

**What:** Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community Leaders panel session,  
Families Australia Child Aware Approaches Conference

Panel members will "share their wisdom and insights for improving outcomes for Indigenous children". Click [here](#) for more information.

**When:** 9am – 9:50am today, Tuesday 19 May

**Where:** Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne

The Families Australia Child Aware Approaches Conference brings together more than 300 policymakers, service delivery workers and researchers from around Australia to discuss how to improve the safety and wellbeing of Australia's children and families.

*The Healing Foundation is a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation with a focus on building culturally strong, community led healing solutions. More information is available at [www.healingfoundation.org.au](http://www.healingfoundation.org.au)*

**Media contact: Raina Hunter, 0407 120 401**