**Baptcare** is a faith-based, not-for-profit organisation that draws on over 75 years' experience to deliver quality services with care and respect. We are an inclusive service that welcomes diversity and promotes cultural safety. Baptcare respects people of different cultures, gender, sexual identity as well as age, ability and religion.

Mission Australia is a national Christian charity motivated by a shared vision of an Australia where everyone has a safe home and can thrive. We believe a person's circumstances shouldn't define their future and that given the right support, everyone can reach their full potential. That's why we stand together with Australians in need. until they can stand for themselves.

We respectfully acknowledge the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional and original owners and continuing custodians of this land.

**Baptcare and Mission Australia support** the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

## Baptcare

Launceston: 03 6323 6700 Hobart: 03 6283 5700 baptcare.org.au/kinship-care



03 6212 6850 **Hobart:** 03 6420 6800 **Devonport: Burnie:** 03 6420 6800 missionaustralia.com.au

For more information call:



Baptcare and Mission Australia are the lead agencies for Strong Families, Safe Kids Advice and Referral Line and Integrated Family Support Service Alliance across Tasmania.





We recognise the support of the Tasmanian Government







# Community **Kinship Program**





Baptcare



### What is Community Kinship?

The Community Kinship program supports grandparents, relatives and non-relatives who provide informal care for young people aged 0-17.

Community Kinship is an informal arrangement (often verbal) with a young person's grandparents, relatives or non-relatives, to care for a young person with no court order in place.

Our practitioners can support carers through the challenges of being a carer in sometimes difficult circumstances.



#### **Community Kinship Values**

Consistency | Advocacy | Carer-led | Carer-focused

These values are delivered with a consistent approach state-wide. Our program offers needs-based training and helps connect people with supports. We can assist with safety planning and information, communication with birth families where appropriate and referrals to additional supports. We can also offer advocacy and help to navigate the Centrelink, health and education systems.

#### **Individual support**

Carers have access to free group activities and individual support. This includes training, respite and help to set up for when a young person come into their care unexpectedly or with little notice. Support is also available when challenges arise in everyday life or where additional support is needed.



#### **Group supports**

Meetings are held every fortnight, with guest speakers presenting topics of interest requested by carers to help them in their role. This could be anything – from computer support through to understanding children's emotions.

There are also regular group functions and outings as well, to build community.

#### Respite and financial support

We can assist you to access respite services if you wish to do so. We can also help you to access financial support which may be available for: set up and establishment costs; essential items such as school uniforms; access to technology for children's education; and access to school activities such as camps and school excursions.

