Foster and Kinship carers acknowledged

27 November 2015

Foster and kinship carers across the Top End have been recognised for the incredible dedication and contribution they make to the lives of vulnerable children in the Northern Territory child protection system.

The Foster and Kinship Carer Excellence Awards acknowledge the important work undertaken in partnership with the Department of Children and Families to provide support and stability to children in care across the Northern Territory.

“To these people who have opened their homes and hearts to children in need, thank you,” Minister for Children and Families John Elferink said.

“The stability of a loving foster home improves social and emotional wellbeing immensely and helps to provide these vulnerable young people with a bright future.”

Carers were nominated by family members, peers, Department of Children and Families staff and Foster Carers Association NT.

The number of children requiring care over the last 12 months increased, as of September this year, there were 1005 children in care.

Of these, there were 437 registered foster and kinship carer families caring for 480 children across the Northern Territory.

Time was also taken to recognise the length of service provided by foster and kinship carers.

Rae Ekert has been an authorised foster carer with the Department of Children and Families since 2009, caring for 23 children during this time.

The Darwin and Katherine 2015 Foster and Kinship Carer Excellence Award Recipients are:

Phillipa Cosgrove (Anula)

Julie Crea (Rosebery)

Domenic Crea (Rosebery)
Rosslyn Weetra (Katherine)

Adrian McDonald (Katherine)

The Alice Springs Foster and Kinship Carer Excellence Awards will be held on 10 December.

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer, or would like further information, please call 1800 814 599 or visit www.carercommunity.nt.gov.au.

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