

Dear friends,

It has been an exciting start to the year with the upcoming election around the corner. We have been fortunate enough to listen to young people and sector workers to produce our Election Platform which we launched at the Election Forum. It was also great to see many of you at our stalls at Yabun Festival and Fair Day.

I would like to thank the over 200 young people and Sector workers who came together for the [NSW State Election Forum](#) '*What matters for young people*'. It was great to hear from the panel of young people who spoke passionately about what is important to them in the election. We also heard from Ms Felicity Wilson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer and for COVID Recovery, Member for North Shore, Liberal Party; Ms Julia Finn, Shadow Minister for Sport, and Shadow Minister for Youth, Member for Granville, Labor Party; and Dr Amanda Cohn, Upper House Candidate, The Greens, and the NSW Youth Alliance, who [launched our 10 key asks](#) to improve rights of young people across the state with the incoming Government.

Young people and the Sector's recommendations in the platform were covered across a range of media including TV, radio and newspaper to raise awareness of your election priorities. In preparation for the election, we have met with Minister Maclaren-Jones, Minister for Families and Communities, and Disability Services, Liberal Party; Minister Franklin, Minister for Tourism, Aboriginal Affairs, the Arts, and Regional Youth, The Nationals; Julia Finn, Shadow Minister for Sport, and Shadow Minister for Youth, Labor Party, and Abigail Boyd, Member of the Legislative Council, The Greens.

In other news, following our successful Election Forum last month, we are excited to announce that our next monthly Sector Sessions for 2023 will kick off on 16 March. You can find more information about that below. I am also excited to announce that Youth Action has expanded our team. This will allow us to continue to represent young people and the youth sector.

Join the March Youth Sector Session

Please join us for our next NSW Youth Sector Session on 'Youth Communication Skills and Speech Pathology' at 10am Thursday 16 March. The session will provide an overview of communication and communication needs, explore the role of a speech pathologist, and will begin to consider how youth workers can support young people with underlying communication needs. It will be presented by Mary Woodward, Senior Advisor, Justice, for [Speech Pathology Australia](#).

[Register](#)

Join the March NSW Youth Network Session

Young people 12 to 24 years of age are invited to join us for the NSW Youth Network Meeting at 5.30pm - 7pm Wednesday 22 March. We will be joined by a guest speaker from the NSW Electoral Commission to answer any questions you may have about the voting process. We will also hear from young people who have been involved in our election consultations with opportunities for you to get involved.

[Register here](#)

Election resources for young people

Learn more about voting in preparation for the 2023 State election via the link below. Thank you to the young people who told us what information they need and the NSW Electoral Commission who have been working with us to create these resources.

[Learn more](#)

Expression of Interest - young people facilitators for Ask For Health Training

Join a network of young people 12 to 24 years of age to be trained to deliver health information workshops to young people in their community as a peer facilitator. Peer facilitators will support young people to build health literacy skills and knowledge about health issues by providing access to accurate health information through peer led workshops. We particularly encourage applications from young people, First Nations young people, LGBTQIA+ young people, regional young people, young people with disability, young people from culturally diverse communities, and young people doing it tough.

[Register here](#)

News and Information

New YFoundations Resource

The 'Are you ready to talk about sex?' video aims to guide young people by dispelling a few myths and sharing some valuable information all from the mouths of other young people. [Watch it here.](#)

2021-22 Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI) report

The Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI) Program is one of the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) key state-wide early intervention programs. The TEI program aims to deliver flexible support to ensure children, young people, families and communities thrive. [Read the annual report here.](#)

DCJ Evidence Portal

The Evidence Portal is a publicly available website that contains quality research evidence. It has been established by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) so that organisations delivering community work in NSW are able to access and apply evidence in the design and delivery of their programs. [Read more about The Portal here.](#)

Joint Advocacy Statement Calling for Greater Support for Young People Impacted by Domestic and Family Violence

The [Association of Children's Welfare Agencies](#) (ACWA), [YFoundations](#), [Youth Action](#), and [Domestic Violence NSW](#) are calling for greater action to support young people, including those on their own, who are impacted by domestic, family, and sexual violence through a joint advocacy statement. [Read the full statement here.](#)

Youth Homelessness Matters Day 2023

Youth Homelessness Matters Day is a national day that was first conceived in 1990 to raise awareness and public discussion about child and youth homelessness. This year, YFoundations are calling for the development of a standalone National Child and Youth Homelessness and Housing Strategy. [Support the campaign here.](#)