



# The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and Western Sydney

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**Monday, 14 September 2020**

### **MORE FOSTER CARERS NEEDED IN CASTLE HILL**

Finding safe, loving and permanent homes for vulnerable kids is the focus of Foster Care Week, with the NSW Government reinforcing its commitment to put children first and to improve outcomes for kids in out-of-home care.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP is calling for Castle Hill locals to consider opening their hearts and their homes for a child in need.

“Our Government is committed to putting children first, and creating stability for kids in out-of-home care is an essential part of that,” Mr Williams said.

“It doesn’t matter if you are single, married, young or old, rent or own your own home – people from all walks of life can provide children with a loving home so that they can thrive.”

An estimated 350 carer households are needed across NSW to meet demand, with options including part-time care, restoration care, kinship care, guardianship and open adoption.

The NSW Government is strengthening support for foster and kinship carers through the \$7 million, *My Forever Family* program. More than 550 potential cares were referred to the program last financial year.

Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Gareth Ward today kicked off a recruitment campaign for new foster carers, promoting the different types of carers needed across the state.

“Our Government is prioritising permanency for kids in care through open adoption and guardianship, but foster care also plays a critical role,” Mr Ward.

“We need people who are willing to open their hearts and their homes to kids in care, either temporarily and permanently, so that we can continue our work to improve the lives of the most vulnerable children in our State.”

To find out more information on how to become a foster carer, contact My Forever Family on 1300 782 975 or visit [www.myforeverfamily.org.au](http://www.myforeverfamily.org.au).

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