

# Building a Better Future

Out-of-Home Care Reform in Western Australia

April 2016

## Department of Communities and Independent Reference Group Information Session -16 January 2020

### Overview

- ◆ Key achievements in 2019
- ◆ Key focus areas for ongoing Department of Communities and Independent Reference Group (IRG) collaborations
- ◆ Out-of-Home Care (OOHC) governance structure
- ◆ IRG membership
- ◆ Where to source further information

*“The Indigenous story ... is extremely important to ensuring that we start to include more Aboriginal organisations in the process of looking after our kids in care.”*

*IRG co-chair, Professor Dawn Bessarab*

*“This is an important first step in the process to co-design the service system for out-of-home.”*

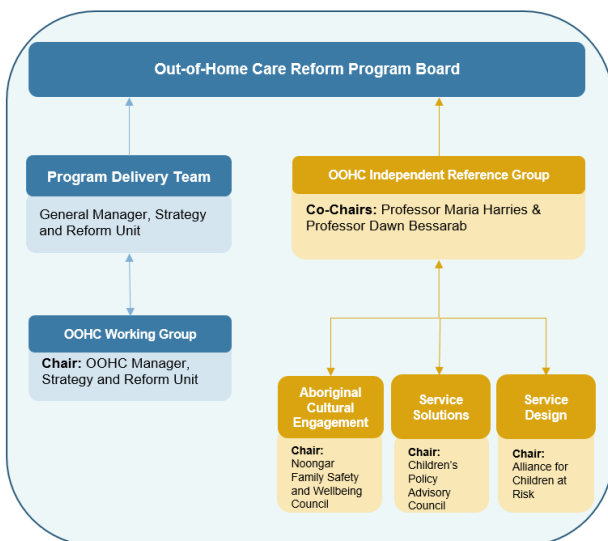
*OOHC Reform Program Sponsor,  
Brad Jolly*

### Key achievements in 2019

- ◆ Formalised collaboration with the IRG, built trust and strengthened relationships
- ◆ Refreshed the approach to the OOHC reforms and included broader representation of children in care, parents, families, and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) in partnership with the IRG
- ◆ Co-hosted interim service solutions workshops for current OOHC providers and district office staff to develop solutions to immediate pressures on the OOHC system

### Key focus areas for ongoing collaboration and next steps

- ◆ Increasing the participation of Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) in the delivery of OOHC services.
- ◆ Initiating trials and pilot programs developed through the interim service solutions workshops.
- ◆ Defining overarching principles, conceptual framework and measurable outcomes for the OOHC system in Western Australia.
- ◆ Co-designing new OOHC service models in consultation with ACCOs, current service providers, peak bodies, parents, carers, young people, and their advocates, and other relevant stakeholders.



*“We are in a really good space to do something different ...”*

*IRG co-chair,*

### For more information

- ◆ Join the mailing list by emailing [StrategyandReform@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:StrategyandReform@communities.wa.gov.au)
- ◆ Visit the IRG webpage

IRG: collectively representing over 185 organisations

