

## Statement on The Voice to Parliament Referendum

*Fams acknowledges the generous invitation from First Nations people in the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and fully endorses the establishment of a First Nations' Voice to Parliament, enshrined in the Australian Constitution.*

*We firmly believe that the Voice to Parliament is a crucial first step towards reconciliation and healing. By ensuring decisions affecting First Nations children and families, are guided by the wisdom of First Nations people, we hope to preserve strong family and cultural connections, while also addressing the unacceptable overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system. Fams is committed to supporting meaningful change in our relationship with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.*

*This national conversation holds significant importance. We understand that some stakeholders including some of our members and employees will hold diverse perspectives and different views. As Australia heads towards the referendum, Fams encourages thoughtful and informed discussion that is respectful to all people. The Federal Electoral Commission information on the referendum can be found [here](#).*

*Fams acknowledges the heightened stress and difficulties faced by our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues during the lead-up to the referendum. We are committed to actively supporting them and being a place of safety and solidarity as an organisation.*

*At Fams, we embrace the learnings from First Nations People as the Traditional Custodians of the land. We are proud to work alongside our fellow peak bodies and First Nations communities as we collectively strive towards closing the gap.*



Ashleigh Daines  
Fams Chairperson



Susan Watson  
Fams CEO