The 18th Biennial International Foster Care Conference “Tell Someone Who Cares” will take place in Sydney, Australia on November 8th-11th, 2015. The conference will foster a multi-cultural dialogue and provide an opportunity to showcase different aspects of foster, kinship and relative care both in a national Australian and global contexts.

The theme selected for the International Foster Care Organisation 2015 World Conference will aim for local and international demographic who share a collective agenda to pursue one motivation: how to enable the welfare, enhance the wellbeing and ensure the livelihood of children across the world.

Over the four days you will connect with more than 700 delegates who are actively involved in the Child, Family and Youth Service sectors across all states of Australia and worldwide. You will be able to engage in meaningful educational experiences, take part in numerous networking sessions and enjoy a variety of entertaining social activities.

International Foster Care Organisation (IFCO) is an international network serving to promote and support family-based foster care across the world. We share global experience to achieve excellence in alternative care.

IFCO is the multi-cultural arena where children, young people, foster carers, parents whose children are in foster care, social workers, academics, researchers, policy makers and others meet, share experience and support each other, all united by the aim of helping to make the right of every child to live in a family a reality.

“Plenaries and workshops that informed and inspired, informal chats that resulted in friendships, contacts and information shared.”

-IFCO 2014 Conference feedback
**IFCO 2015 Programme at a Glance**

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**Why Attend?**

1. IFCO has a 30-year-long history of groundbreaking successful annual conferences with an international and immediate local focus.

2. It is a unique opportunity to engage and connect with the best practitioners from across the globe: foster parents, carers, researchers, social workers, committed officials, children and youth from/in care.

3. Join us in celebrating the work of foster, kinship and relative carers across the world and to promote family-based care for children in need of care and protection.

**Structure:** The meeting has been planned as a four-day event with Wednesday, 11th November afternoon and Thursday, 12th November as the ‘free time’ periods. Delegates will be offered optional planned activities allowing them to choose an extension to their visit and to make the most out of their time in Sydney.

In addition, the NSW Karitane/Connecting Carers Conference will be run in conjunction with the global International Foster Care Organisation conference.

**Who Should Attend:**
- Foster, kinship and relative carers
- Parents whose children are in care
- Social workers, policy makers, academics and researchers
- Looked after/Children in care
- Care leavers

**Venue:** Built on the rooftop of The Star, The Event Centre with its views over Sydney Harbour and the city skyline will be the home for the IFCO 2015 Conference. Accommodation has been arranged at discounted rates at The Star and nearby properties to suit all budgets.

**Enquiries:** For any information please contact the local conference organiser – Corporate Communique – on info@corporatecommunique.com.au /+61 3 5977 0244. All information is being posted on the conference website at [www.ifco2015.com](http://www.ifco2015.com)

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **2 March 2015**
  Deadline for submission of abstract papers

- **30 April 2015**
  Registration opens

- **3 May 2015**
  Provisional programme

- **30 May 2015**
  Earlybird registration closes for delegates

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Organisers

[IFCO](http://www.ifco.org) — International Foster Care Organisation

[Karitane](http://www.karitane.org) — Connecting Carers NSW

[NSW Family & Community Services](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au)