

Young and 'care-full': the hidden group of young kinship carers in Australia



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National Foster Care & Kinship Care Conference 2017

Kinship care



Definition: Family-based care within the child's extended family or with friends of the family known to the child.

Formal (statutory) kinship care is ordered by a child protection authority, and is normally accompanied by a care allowance.

Supervising Mum's visit



**GRANDPARENTS
raising
GRANDCHILDREN**

*Ma nga Kaumatua hei tautoko
te tipurangi ake o nga mokopuna*

JILL WORRALL

A HANDBOOK FOR GRANDPARENTS
AND OTHER KIN CAREGIVERS

PREPARED FOR THE GRANDPARENTS
RAISING GRANDCHILDREN TRUST

GRANDPARENTS



**RAISING
GRANDCHILDREN**

INFORMATION CENTER
OF LOUISIANA

**Grandparents
Raising Grandchildren
Support Line**

Help for grandparents and other relatives
raising a family member's child

Provincewide
Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri
11:00 am—3:00 pm
604-558-4740
(Lower Mainland) or
1-855-474-9777
(toll-free across BC)

Email
grgline@parentsupportbc.ca



Community First HEH youthfirst Hampshire County Council

**Grandparents
who care for Grandchildren !
Find a Support Group near you...**

Following our survey into the types of support needed by Grandparents caring for their Grandchildren, these support groups will provide you with

- an opportunity to share thoughts and experiences with other grandparents
- access to advice and guidance from professionals (including a specialist family solicitor, a representative from Citizens Advice, a Social Worker, and Liam Moloney from Community First HEH)

All groups are from 11am to 1pm

- Bordon Youth Club—January 14th
- Alton Community Centre—January 21st
- Waterlooille Community Centre—February 4th
- Hewitt's @ Emsworth—February 16th
- Bordon Youth Club—March 4th
- Waterlooille Community Centre—March 18th



For more information or to register your interest in attending please contact:

Project Researcher: Liam Moloney
07922 631511 or 0300 500 8085
liam.moloney@cfheh.org.uk
The Tilmore Centre,
1 Tilmore Road, Petersfield GU32 2HG
www.cfheh.org.uk/youth-services




grandparents INFORMATION **RAISING
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**If you're a grandparent raising
grandchildren, you're not alone.
We can help you.**



**Grandparents
plus**

We champion the wider
family who care for children

UK research 2011

Spotlight on kinship care

Using Census microdata to examine the extent and nature of kinship care in the UK

Shailen Nandy and Julie Selwyn
April 2011



38% of children in kinship care in England were being cared for by a sibling carer without help from an older household member.

Big Bruv Little Sis



Research findings on sibling carers raising their younger sisters and brothers

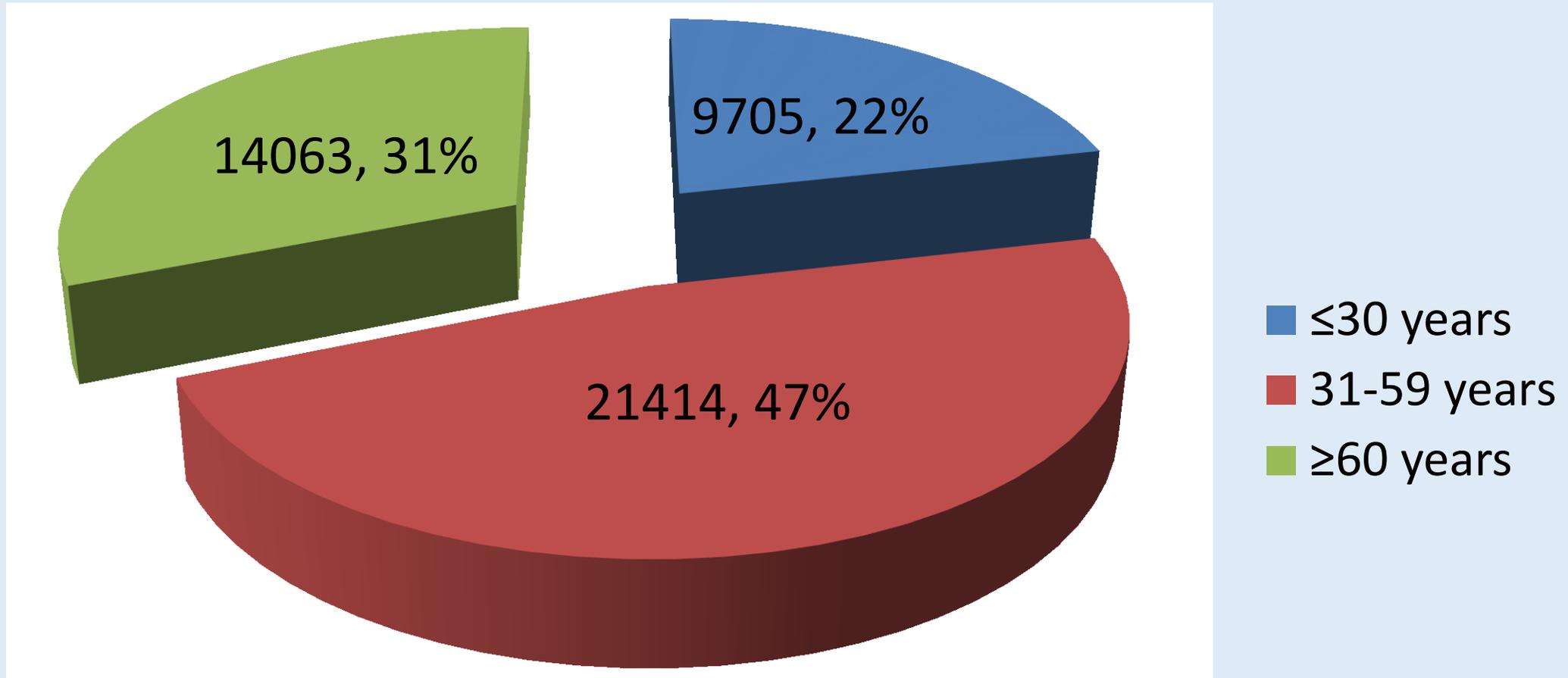
Foreword:
Rt. Hon. Alan Johnson MP

Authors:
David Roth
Bridget Lindley
Cathy Ashley

Editor:
Cathy Ashley



2011 Census data: kinship care households (Two-generation)



This is the TIP of the iceberg: up to 5 times as many young kinship carers in multi-generational households

Young and 'care-full': The support needs of young kinship carers and children in their care



Identify young kinship carers in Australia and explore their characteristics and support needs.

Identify opportunities to better support young kinship carers and children in their care.

Alert policymakers and community to the findings.



Methodology

Census analysis re demographic characteristics of young carers

35 interviews with carers, 7 with young people

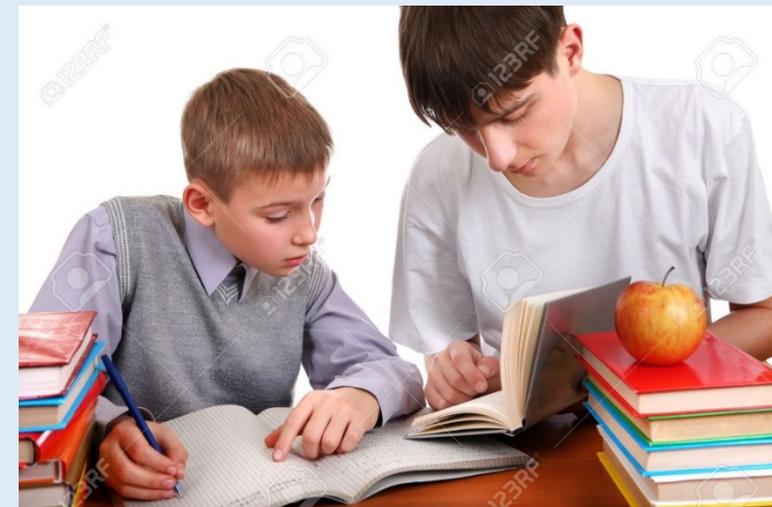
Plan for a pilot support service

Publicity, knowledge dissemination & advocacy

Funding

2014-5: Seeding grant - R E Ross Trust

2016-7: Major grant - Sidney Myer Fund



Sibling carers – a common childhood



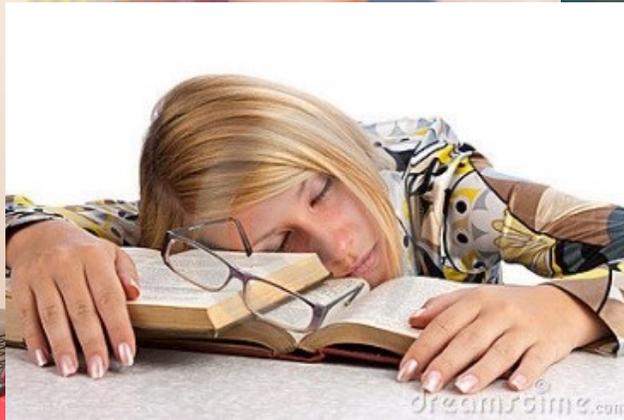
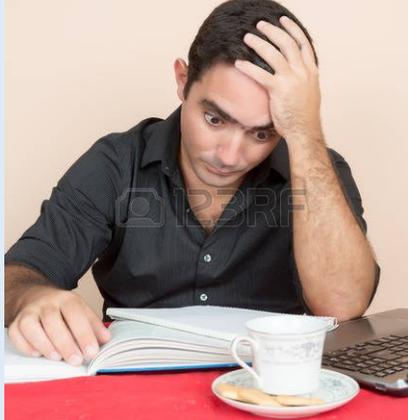
It's not the same for everybody else... like foster careWhereas I came from the same troubled family that these two boys came from. I'm doing the best that I can, but I wasn't given any great role models really, we just struggled. (Noelle)



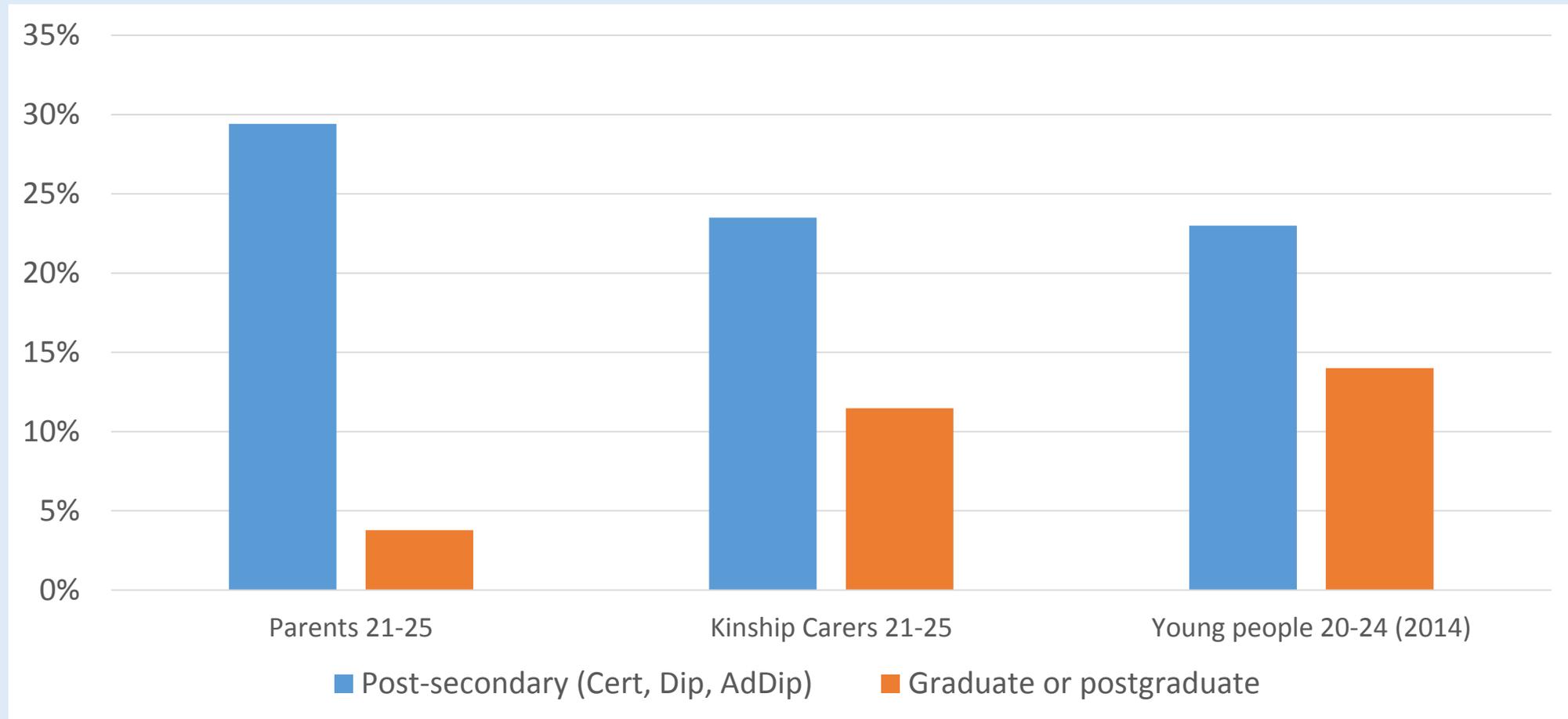
Youth and multi-parenthood



Care responsibilities and study



Post-secondary education



Sources: 1. ABS census data 2. 2011 AIHW Report *Australia's welfare 2015*



Not much money....



Young and 'care-full'



Our lives essentially get put on hold. I don't think they realise that there's a lot of restrictions when we take on the kids. Financially I don't think they understand how much it costs to look after a child if you can't go to work. It makes you feel lonely, I don't really know how to explain it. (Noelle)

The need for support

'It was awful. We had no support...and we were so young...'

(Kara)



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Advice to policymakers

[What do you think the people who are making policy need to know if they're really going to pay attention to young kinship carers?]

That we exist. And that it's not just grandparents taking care of children.
(Mandy, sibling carer)

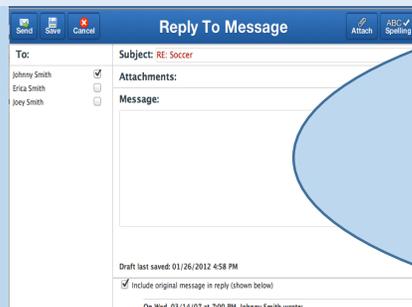


A pilot support service?



Webpage for service access

Discussion Board



Extensive awareness-raising publicity



Telephone support - dedicated kinship care service

Help with child care, respite care, education costs, etc?

Look at it case by case....(Noelle)



Your ideas are welcome!
Can you help?

Further information:

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0400 913659

‘We’re not incapable...’ (Violet)