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Your submission for this review:

I have been an authorised foster carer for over 30 years. I am a strong advocate for children in the NSW OOHC system. I lobby at all levels of government child protection including but not limited to State and Federal child protection and Open Adoption matters. I recently contacted the Minister Kate Washington (DCJ) requesting a meeting and she arranged for 2 of her senior staff to meet with me. I am putting forward here, in part, the same suggestions I made regarding the exorbitant costs and waste of taxpayers' money to date and how a simple solution although complex to implement would save millions, if not billions of taxpayers' money. 1. Deprivatise ALL NGOs and ACCOs. 2. Set up a DCJ GUARDIANSHIP only branch. Similar to the Open Adoption branch. 3. The ACT requires permanency for all children within a set time frame as per the Permanent Placement Principles. With Guardianship or Open Adoption so children will no longer be in OOHC with the Minister having Parental Responsibility for children until they attain 18 years of age. 4. The Permanent Support Program (PSP) set up by DCJ failed and the DCJ have ceased the program following damning reports from stakeholders, peak bodies and media exposures as to "wasted taxpayers' money" paid to NGOs, ACCOs who sub contracted FOR PROFIT service providers using untrained 3 x 8-hour shift workers to "babysit" children in hotels, motels, caravan parks and units as there were no foster carers, or residential units to place the children with under the ACA (Assisted Care Arrangement) or STCO (Short Term Care Option) Both very expensive programs to fund although sub-contracting For Profit services providers who are charging \$38,000.00 PER WEEK (over \$2 million) beggars' belief. 5. The majority of accredited NGOs do NOT support Guardianship or Open Adoption ALL ACCOs DO NOT support Permanency Legislation. 6. The OCG lists accredited agencies NONE says Guardianship.