Media Release

The Hon Anthony Carbines MP
Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers
Minister for Child Protection and Family Services



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NEW CHILD PROTECTION RECRUITS READY TO GO

The next group of child protection recruits are ready to go where they are needed and make a difference keeping Victoria's children safe and families strong.

Minister for Child Protection and Family Services Anthony Carbines this week congratulated more than 70 graduates now qualified to become child protection practitioners, with some already securing roles with the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing.

The graduates gained paid, hands-on child protection experience during a 12-week employment program.

The program is part of the *Go Where You're Needed* campaign, which aims to recruit more than 280 new child protection practitioners across metropolitan and regional Victoria.

Since the campaign was launched in September, more than 1,000 people have enquired about child protection roles, 353 have attended information sessions and nearly 70 have applied to become child protection practitioners.

The Andrews Labor Government announced a \$1.2 billion boost to the children and families system in the *Victorian Budget 2021/22* – including \$171 million to increase the number of frontline child protection staff. This brings the total to more than 1,180 new child protection practitioners since 2014.

To learn more about child protection jobs available, visit vic.gov.au/childprotectionjobs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Child Protection and Family Services Anthony Carbines

"We are delivering Victoria's largest ever child protection workforce boost to keep children safe and families strong."

"Congratulations to the graduates – child protection is a job to be proud of and provides a stable career where you can make a real difference in children's lives every day."

"A career in child protection offers opportunities to build a varied career, with a broad range of roles to choose from across various levels."

Media contact: David Donaldson 0400 881 562 | david.donaldson@minstaff.vic.gov.au