

## **Family Inclusion Network South East Queensland Nomination**

The Family Inclusion Network team, parents and their allies are nominated for their passion and commitment in bringing together the voices and experiences of parents within the Queensland child protection system. Their work has resulted in:

- establishment of the first Parent Advisory Committee
- identification of areas for improvement such as legal representation for parents, earlier support, and parents' participation in systemic advocacy, and
- involvement of parents during the COVID pandemic in providing feedback about the stress created when parental contact with their children was ceased.

I am submitting this nomination in recognition of the generosity of all involved, the courage of parents in so openly disclosing their journey despite the deep pain they have experienced, the Minister and Department staff for providing safe and respectful opportunity for engagement and reflection, and the Family Inclusion Network Team for their skilful facilitation of this collaboration. I am nominating all for their achievement in progressing a structural way in which parents can provide input on policy within the child protection system as an Australian First.