



Australia FOCUS[®] ON THE FAMILY



From our CEO...

The last three months since my appointment as CEO have been largely devoted to prayer, travel and planning.

In my travels I have had the pleasure of meeting personally and connecting with a good number of you and hope, in time, to continue to meet more and more of the countless people who support our efforts in so many ways.

I also have the opportunity to pray earnestly for all of the wonderful and faithful individuals, families and organisations that partner with us in helping families thrive here in Australia.

Our three year strategic plan seeks to increase our effectiveness and impact in the area of strengthening families and how we engage with everyone who is connected to the ministry. I look forward to communicating some of these new initiatives via future newsletters.

Whether your support has been through prayer, financial donations, facilitating one of our many programs or resource purchases, the whole team here at FOFA appreciate you and value your connection with us.

As you read the feedback from those impacted by the No Apologies, Starting Points and DPYK programs, I trust you will catch the vision of what we can achieve together and are inspired to continue your support in whatever ways you can:

- Become a prayer partner
- Join our team of faithful donors
- Purchase your Christmas gifts from our new catalogue
- Subscribe to a Focus magazine

Finally, please don't hesitate to contact the team here at FOFA around any areas of need or ways that we can better serve you as together we champion the cause of families in Australia.

Thank you and God bless.

Brett McLeod
CEO

Dale's 10 Years

Deciding to work with Focus on the Family Australia was perhaps one of the easiest decisions I've had to make. Over 10 years ago my family and I were getting ready to move back to Melbourne from interstate. The big question was, "Well Lord, where do you want me?"



I remember watching the original Focus on the Family video series around this time and just knew that this was the organisation I wanted to work for. I started voluntarily as a counsellor one day per week and the rest is history.

A highlight of my career at Focus on the Family is my involvement

with the How to Drug Proof Your Kids parent program which was created by Focus on the Family Australia and launched the year I started. Currently we are completing a major validation study and revision of this program which hopefully will see it positioned as one of the best programs of its type worldwide.

In October this year I will be travelling to Paris, London and the US to present the revised program to our partners and affiliates from 7 countries. Very exciting!

It's been a real privilege to serve God as part of such a highly regarded ministry.

Dale Stagg

New Branding

Have you noticed our new logo? Focus on the Family has gone through a global branding transformation to help fully realise our ministry's potential in the 21st Century. We feel that we now have a visual identity that reflects what Focus on the Family stands for, expresses what makes us special and is meaningful to our audience.

Helping Families to Thrive in Christ is our new endorsement. At Focus on the Family, we are dedicated to helping today's families navigate a troubled world from a Christ-centred foundation. We are committed to:

- Helping families grow and prosper for a lifetime
- Building relationships that are rooted in lasting love and unchanging truth
- Nourishing with sound, practical and biblically based guidance
- Working on behalf of family-relevant issues
- Welcoming individuals and families at all of life's intersections
- Being faithful stewards of the rich heritage bestowed upon us by our founder Dr James C Dobson

www.families.org.au

Come and browse our new look website and remember to visit our brand new bookstore with a great search engine to help you find all those products you are interested in, you can even create your own wishlist.

Proposed Projects

Focus on the Family® Australia Production of 26 Radio Programs



At the recent Christian Media Australia conference in May 2008, radio station representatives communicated to us a desperate need for locally produced radio programs focusing on real-life family issues.

As a well known and trusted voice relating to family needs, they strongly encouraged Focus on the Family Australia (FOFA) to take the lead in this area.

It has been our desire to respond to this expressed need for some time. It presents an exciting opportunity to significantly expand our presence within Christian broadcasting.

Focus on the Family® Australia Production of 10-minute Promotional/Testimonial DVD

Consistently people from all parts of Australia share how the ministry of Focus on the Family has impacted their lives.

Our vision is to capture these testimonies on DVD and develop a powerful tool for communicating with our partners and the community how lives are being changed through the work of this ministry.

Focus on the Family® Australia Production of "How To Drug Proof Your Kids" DVD

This six session preventative parenting program which was developed in Australia is now being utilized used in six countries (New Zealand, Canada, UK, France, South Africa, USA).



The program is in the final stages of a major revision where we have worked with Prof. John Toumbourou from Deakin University to ensure that it reflects best world research practices to bring about positive change in the parenting of children.

Our major need is to complement the curriculum with 60 minutes of video, as again research shows that face to face teaching complemented with visual media gives the best results.

Testimonials

No Apologies

"No Apologies hits at the heart of young people. It communicates this simple yet life-changing message in a language that commences a new direction for young people. My youth have used the program which has resulted in young lives being impacted, young people being empowered, young people being set free from pressures they should never have faced."

Pastor Paul

"(FOFA's No Apologies) program meant a lot to me and showed us the reality of casual sex and not to believe what media is telling us today. I learnt the benefits of being a virgin until marriage and consequences of having it outside the boundaries."

Male participant 14 years old

"I can be part of the statistics if I am not careful. The danger is real and I don't want to have life long consequences which can be avoided."

Female participant, 15 years old

FOFA "No Apologies" facilitator program has opened my eyes to see sex ed. The tools that I have been given have impacted me & my teaching philosophy & I know it will impact people in my world, my church & school. Thank you & God Bless"
(Daniel re Facilitator Training).

How to Drug Proof Your Kids

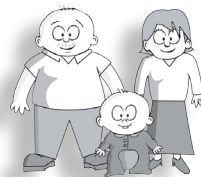
"This is a great program, not just for dealing with kids and drugs, but looking at how to deal with relationships positively."

"I was completely satisfied with the course. Every parent should attend it. I not only feel comfortable with drug & alcohol issues but all aspects of parenting. Thank you."

"This course was really informative, and as my daughter gets older I will definitely use the information again. Very glad I did the course."

Starting Points

Starting Points is a facilitator based program designed to help parents focus on a good and positive family life by equipping them with effective skills for caring for children in their early years.



One of our Starting Points facilitators, Ange, took the program with her when she went away on a 12 month secondment to Nhulunbuy, NT and presented 3 parent programs. At the request of the community, we are now looking at training up another facilitator to continue the impact of Starting Points in this remote Australian community.

Return Slip

"He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers." Malachi 4:6



Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Rev/Dr/Pastor:

First Name:

Surname:

Home Address:

Suburb/City:

State: Postcode:

Home Phone:

Mobile:

Email:

I am paying by: Cheque MasterCard Visa Amex

Card No:

Name on Card: Expiry:

Signature:

1) I would like to support Focus on the Family on a monthly basis by becoming a pledge partner.

- Please contact me to discuss monthly payment options.
- \$30 \$50 \$150
- \$250 Other \$ _____

2) I would like to help Focus on the Family Australia continue the fight to strengthen families with a donation of:

- \$1,000 \$500 \$250
- \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____
- Monthly Single

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

I would like a tax deductible receipt. Gifts of \$2 and over to Pro-Fam community Health Inc are tax deductible.

I would like to become a part of the prayer support network for Focus on the Family Australia.

I do not wish to receive regular updates from Focus on the Family Australia.