



Australian Government



Funded by the Australian Government
Department of Families, Community Services
and Indigenous Affairs and supported by Centrelink.

national
*Families
Week*

13-19 May 2007

**FAMILIES INVESTING
IN TIME TOGETHER**



www.familiesaustralia.org.au



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NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK 2007

National Families Week 2007 will be held from Sunday 13 May to Saturday 19 May 2007 (coinciding with UN International Day of the Family on 15 May and Mothers' Day on 13 May).

The central aim of *National Families Week 2007* is to encourage all Australians to take time to do things together that will improve the all-round physical and emotional wellbeing of their family unit. The slogan is: "FITT Families - Families Investing in Time Together".

The emphasis of *National Families Week 2007* on making an investment of family time is about prompting individuals to remember that they are part of families and that the family unit itself, as well as its members, need special tending if it is to be strong.

Each year, tens of thousands of people and hundreds of organisations celebrate *National Families Week* - Australia's annual celebration of the vital role of families. In 2006, over 105,000 people participated in National Families Week events around Australia, illustrating the widespread importance of families within the community.

This *National Families Week* you're encouraged to invest some time to celebrate the vital role of your family and to do things that will improve the all-round physical and emotional wellbeing of your family unit. Take the time to go for a family picnic, have that game of backyard cricket you planned all summer, catch up with friends/relatives for a walk in a local beauty spot, spend some time talking and listening to all members of your family. See our website for more ideas www.familiesaustralia.org.au

The Australian Government, through the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, is sponsoring *National Families Week 2007* with Families Australia. Centrelink is also promoting *National Families Week* and providing support through its national network.

WHY 13-19 MAY 2007?

National Families Week is timed to coincide with the United Nations International Day of Families on 15 May. This day is observed by the United Nations to mark the importance that the international community places on families as the most fundamental units of society, as well as concern about their situation in many parts of the world.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK

There are lots of ways for community groups (large and small), employers, government departments, politicians, families and others to get involved. You could:

Plan an event or activity

Make *National Families Week* your own! You can participate in any way that is appropriate for you.

Here are some *National Families Week* ideas:

For organisations and community groups:

- Erect a *National Families Week* display in your work foyer highlighting what your organisation provides for families
- Arrange a picnic for your organisation and people who use your services
- Hold an open day or morning tea
- Promote your services, events and activities to families in your area through local media outlets
- Host a family-friendly day in your workplace
- Organise an event such as a seminar on an issue relevant to families
- Promote the achievements of local families through recognition awards
- Promote the diversity of families in your local area
- Organise street parties
- Provide information for families in public contact areas
- Arrange for feature articles to be placed in the media on local families and wellbeing
- Hold a writing or poetry competition
- Arrange a community outing to local areas of interest

For families and individuals:

- Encourage your family to make short movies on issues important to them - and then hold a "Movie Premiere Night"
- Have a family breakfast before work and/or school
- Organise a family walkathon
- Take some family photos
- Have a family movie marathon
- Have a family sports carnival

Let your imagination run wild but be sure to check whether you need public liability insurance (see www.ourcommunity.com.au/insurance for further information). More ideas for activities can be found on our website at www.familiesaustralia.org.au. By registering on-line, you can also see what other local communities are doing for the week.

USE THE NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK LOGO

Use of the logo is free of charge, all you need to do is cover the costs of running your event and register your event with us. You can use the logo in any way you like to publicise something you are doing during *National Families Week*. For example, use the logo on your letterhead or on an event poster.

PUT OUT A MEDIA RELEASE

You may be a small local organisation but that doesn't mean that media won't be interested in how you are celebrating *National Families Week*. You could highlight the services you provide to families, especially if you've organised a 'media friendly' function or event. Once you have registered your event, Families Australia will send you a template for a media release to assist in producing your media release.

PROMOTE IT!

Spread the word about *National Families Week* and your event - use websites, display posters in public places, send e-newsletters. Let's make *National Families Week* really great!

VISIT THE NATIONAL PARENTING INFORMATION WEBSITE - www.raisingchildren.net.au

Be sure to check out the national Parenting Information Website at www.raisingchildren.net.au. This website provides up-to-date, quality assured information on children's development and parenting issues. Parents, carers, professionals and community groups will all find something interesting and useful on this site.

HELP WITH EVENTS

Register your event with Families Australia before 7 April 2007 and we will send you *National Families Week* promotional products such as balloons, posters and tattoos.

REGISTERING IS EASY

You can register your event on-line through our website at www.familiesaustralia.org.au. Alternatively, a copy of the registration form is on this poster - simply complete it and return it to Families Australia.

13-19 May 2007 National Families Week is on!

EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

To assist us with supplying promotional products in a timely manner, please register no later than 7 April 2007.
HOW TO REGISTER? Go online at www.familiesaustralia.org.au and click on the *National Families Week* logo Or Photocopy and complete this form and either fax to 02 6273 4886 or mail to Suite 3, 7 National Circuit, BARTON ACT 2600 Or Email your details to familiesweek@familiesaustralia.org.au

YOUR EVENT DETAILS

Event Type (eg Morning Tea, Seminar, BBQ etc.)

(attach more paper if necessary)

Event Name (if applicable): _____

Date(s): _____

How many people do you expect to participate? * _____

Has your organisation participated in previous *National Families Weeks*: YES NO (tick box)

If your event is open to the public, would you like it to be promoted in a Calendar of Events on our website?: YES NO (tick box)

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Organisation Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

State _____ Post Code _____

Delivery Address (if different to address given above): _____

State _____ Post Code _____

Organisation Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Organisation Email: _____

*Important: Numbers that you provide here will tell us how many *National Families Week* promotional products we should supply to support your event. If you're holding more than one event, enter the total number of people you expect to attend all events during the Week.

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THE STRONGER FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

National Families Week is funded by the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy, an Australian Government initiative giving families, their children, young people and communities the opportunity to build a better future.

Strong families with healthy, well-adjusted children and young people require strong, stable communities in which to grow. To that end, the Strategy also continues to support communities and initiatives building capacity, leadership and mentoring.

Further information regarding the Australian Government's Stronger Families and Communities Strategy can be found under 'Families' at: www.facsia.gov.au



families
australia

WHO ARE WE?

National Families Week is run by Families Australia on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Families Australia is Australia's independent peak not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the needs and interests of families. Families Australia's vision is of a society that recognises the central role of families in the community and embraces its responsibilities for the development, nurturing and wellbeing of all families in Australia. Families Australia is funded by the Australian Government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and by Families Australia Members.



FAMILIES AUSTRALIA REPRESENTS AND MAINTAINS A STRONG POLICY VOICE ON BEHALF OF ALL AUSTRALIAN FAMILIES.

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CONTACT US
NEED MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK?

Families Australia is happy to answer your questions and talk to you about how you can celebrate *National Families Week*. Contact us by phone on 02 6273 4885, fax 02 6273 4886 or email to familiesweek@familiesaustralia.org.au



You Can JOIN
Families Australia

You are invited to join *Families Australia*. To obtain more information, visit our website at www.familiesaustralia.org.au, email us on admin@familiesaustralia.org.au or ring us on 02 6273 4885.