



**NATIONALS** for Regional NSW

**Austin Evans MP**

**MEMBER FOR MURRAY**



## MEDIA RELEASE

1 November 2018

### **NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH: FINDING A FOREVER HOME FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE**

Member for Murray Austin Evans has welcomed the NSW Government's commitment to finding a safe, permanent and loving home for children in out-of-home care.

Mr Evans said National Adoption Awareness Month was an opportunity to promote the benefits of safety, stability and permanency for vulnerable children.

"We know children do best when they grow up in a stable, nurturing environment. That is why the NSW Government is reforming the child protection system to ensure all children have a permanent home within two years of entering the system, whether that is through restoration, guardianship or open adoption," Mr Evans said.

"I would like to thank all of the wonderful adoptive parents in Murray and encourage anyone who is interested in becoming a carer, guardian or adoptive parent to contact My Forever Family NSW."

Minister for Family and Community Services Pru Goward said for people considering open adoption in NSW, fostering to adopt a child in out-of-home care can often be a positive pathway.

"We want all children in NSW to enjoy the benefits of a permanent, loving home," Ms Goward said.

"NSW leads the nation with open adoptions from out-of-home care, giving more children the chance to thrive with a forever family."

"We are committed to supporting families to stay together. When that is not possible we must find a forever home for children through guardianship or open adoption."

The NSW Government achieved a record number of 140 open adoptions in NSW in 2017/18 and has invested \$17 million over two years to target more than 1000 open adoptions over the next four years.

For information about how to become a carer please visit <https://www.myforeverfamily.org.au/>.

ENDS

**Media contact: Murray Electorate Office: Anne Lyons (02) 6962 6644**