

## National Families Week 2017

*Stronger families, stronger communities*



National Families Week 2017 will be held from Monday 15 May to Sunday 21 May 2017 (coinciding with the United Nations International Day of Families on 15 May).

The aim of National Families Week 2017 is to celebrate the vital role that families play in Australian society. The 2017 theme is '*Stronger families, stronger communities*'.

This theme highlights the important role families play as the central building block of our communities and that community wellbeing is enhanced by family wellbeing.

National Families Week is a time to celebrate with your family, make contact with your extended family and friends, and share in the enjoyment of family activities within the wider community. It is a time to celebrate the meaning of family and to make the most of family life. Let's take the time to reflect on the critical role that families play in teaching, supporting and nurturing children, especially as they grow.

Each year, tens of thousands of people and hundreds of organisations celebrate National Families Week – Australia's annual celebration of families. In 2016, over 130,000 people participated in National Families Week registered events around Australia, illustrating the importance of families within the community.

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 to show concern about their situation in many parts of the world.

All Australians, including community organisations, schools, councils, companies and individuals are invited to participate in National Families Week each year.

Organisations planning to hold an event for National Families Week need to register it in order to receive promotional products (posters, balloons, stickers, notepads and painting sheets). Please register by 15 April 2017 to ensure there is sufficient time to process your registration and mail promotional products.

National Families Week is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

More information can be found on our website: [www.nfw.org.au](http://www.nfw.org.au)