



National Families Week
@HOME

STRONGER
FAMILIES
STRONGER
COMMUNITIES

15-21 MAY 2020
WWW.NFW.ORG.AU

“This year has been a particularly challenging time for Australian families. We have seen our landscape change dramatically through years of drought, followed by devastating bushfires and the coronavirus pandemic, impacting on a huge number of Australian families. With this in mind, it is a particularly important time to embrace the enduring theme of National Families Week - 'Stronger Families, Stronger Communities' – and the role families play by working together to support each other and care for those in the broader community.

The coronavirus pandemic has seen the implementation of social distancing guidelines that have changed the way we connect with our extended family and community. I have seen many positive examples of families providing support to each other and their communities through virtual and novel ways.

One of the National Families Week ‘Top Ten Tips’ I would like to highlight is participating in local events and getting to know our community. Using technology, there are many ways we can stay connected including text messages, phone calls, social media and video calling applications.

I have seen these applications used to host dinner parties, create videos or visual messages to share, run book clubs, organise trivia nights, community meetings and online get-togethers; to check in on friends and neighbours; and to learn new skills as we stay at home to help prevent the spread of coronavirus. There are so many creative ways to stay connected and engaged while helping others through this unique time.

I am proud to be part of the National Families Week@HOME celebrations, and I encourage everyone to get involved and celebrate how your family is helping to build a stronger community.”

Kathryn Campbell AO CSC
Secretary
Department of Social Services