

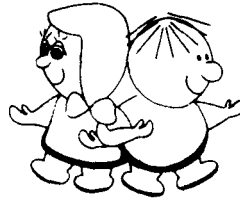
NATIONAL BODY PLANS FULL-TIME SECRETARIAT.

The Child and Family Welfare Council of Australia is planning for the appointment of a full-time Executive Officer.

The Council, which was formed in 1971, has until now been served by an honorary Executive Officer. He is Mr Gordon Hardie, formerly the Director of the Burnside Children's Homes in Parramatta, N.S.W. Since his retirement from Burnside, Mr Hardie has devoted a considerable amount of time to his duties as honorary Executive Officer of the Council. However, health reasons have now dictated the relinquishment of this role.

The Child and Family Welfare Council of Australia, which is the national association of state co-ordinating bodies and member agencies, has now committed itself to the appointment of a salaried Executive Officer. Plans are underway to attract financial support for this position, which is expected to commence early in 1978. It is anticipated that an early priority for the Executive Officer of the Council will be to plan and promote a range of projects highlighting the Year of the Child 1979.

At a time when innovative programmes are being developed as alternatives to residential care, and many traditional agencies are re-examining their roles, the appointment of a full-time Executive Officer will assist residential agencies to re-deploy their considerable resources to meet existing and anticipated community needs.



Children's Week in Victoria is to be held from Sunday, October 23 to Sunday October 30, 1977.

The dates of Children's Week have been changed this year to coincide with Universal Children's Day — the international day of "friendship and concern for children". Universal Children's Day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly more than twenty years ago and is jointly sponsored each year by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Union for Child Welfare (IUCW). Celebrated on the fourth Wednesday in October, Universal Children's Day is a day to remember the needs and rights not only of our own children but of children throughout the world.

Children's Week . . .

A TIME TO FOCUS ON CHILDREN WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD.

A TIME IN WHICH WE EXAMINE WHAT WE DO AND WHAT WE DO NOT DO, FOR CHILDREN.

A TIME TO TALK AND PLAN AROUND THE MEETING OF CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL, SOCIAL, INTELLECTUAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS.

A TIME TO CELEBRATE CHILDHOOD.

Children's Week focuses on . . . CHILDREN EVERYWHERE.

F.A.C.S. IS THE PASSWORD

The Victorian Minister for Social Welfare, the Hon. Brian Dixon, recently outlined in Parliament a new programme for the development of **Family and Community Services** in the State.

In an accompanying statement, the Minister provided the following brief outline to the scheme —

The family and Community Services Programme of the Social Welfare Department is based on the beliefs that welfare services must become more personal and more accessible, that welfare can be both preventative and curative, and that services should be influenced by those who will use them and work with them.

Under F.A.C.S, the Social Welfare Department will make money available on a 2:1 basis to local governments so they may set information and co-ordination services which can be used easily and with confidence. The services will be made available to people in a comfortable 'no fuss' manner in places which are convenient to them.

Departmental staff will support Family and Community Services Consultative Committees. These Committees are being established for each Region in the State and will be made up of equal numbers of elected representatives from local government and voluntary or self-help organisations. Other State government departments have been invited to nominate representatives or observers.