



## **FRSA National Conference 2025 – *Safe, Strong and Thriving.***

### **Call for Abstracts**

Family & Relationship Services Australia (FRSA) invites you to submit an abstract to present at the FRSA National Conference 2025.

The theme for the FRSA National Conference 2025 is ***Safe, Strong and Thriving.***

FRSA's vision is an Australia where children, families and communities are safe, strong and thriving. At National Conference 2025 we ask: What will it take to bring this vision to life in a complex and ever-changing environment? How do we navigate complexity, change – and the unexpected – to ensure our services work for children, families and communities? Importantly, how do we ensure that our sector is safe, strong and thriving so that we can realise our vision for the people we work with every day?

Family and relationship services are designed as early intervention universal services - available to all people living in Australia, as and when they need them. However, people are increasingly presenting to family and relationship services with complex and intersecting needs, exacerbated by the cost of living and housing crisis, and overloaded tertiary service systems. In this context, what does early intervention mean? And, how do we ensure access for all? We ask presenters to reflect on this context as they prepare an abstract that responds to the theme, ***Safe, Strong and Thriving.***

The FRSA National Conference 2025 provides a platform to showcase and learn from on the ground practice, policy, and research. It will provide an opportunity to identify the strengths we can build on and the opportunities we can harness to meet the changing needs of children, families and communities.

The FRSA Conference is heralded as a highlight event for the Family and Relationship Services Network and will, as always, deliver a prime opportunity to showcase the impressive work of the sector.

We welcome abstracts that speak to the conference theme – ***Safe, Strong and Thriving.***

In preparing and making your submission, you are asked to select and position your abstract within one of the six following streams:

1. **The first 1000 days** (e.g. the preconception period (preconception to birth), the birth of a child, impact on family relationships and transitions into parenting).
2. **Schooling Years** (e.g. school readiness, transitions into and across primary and secondary schools/school years, young people with significant caring responsibilities and transitioning out of school into training, tertiary education or employment).
3. **Children at the Centre** (e.g. child-focused and child-inclusive practice, supporting children's participation in policy development, children's participation in service design and evaluation, child safety and wellbeing).
4. **Relationship breakdown and re-partnering** (e.g. family/domestic violence, family legal services, family dispute resolution, men's behavioural change programs, parenting after separation, sole-parenting and sustaining the best interests and wellbeing of children).
5. **Family Domestic Violence** (e.g. identifying and managing family violence risk, child maltreatment, perpetrator interventions, adolescents using violence in the home, elder abuse)
6. **Across the lifecourse** (e.g. diverse and changing family structures, developing and maintaining respectful relationships, social connection, intersectionality and inclusion)

We are a rich and diverse society, and FRSA encourages presentations that show our sector's work with different cohorts and communities – First Nations peoples, culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, people with disability and LGBTQI+ people - and other cohorts who may face particular challenges in accessing safe and appropriate services.

To submit your Abstract, please review the Abstracts Guidelines & Assessment Criteria below which outlines all abstract information and assessment criteria and submit your Abstract via the button below.

For more information about submitting an abstract, please contact FRSA Manager of Policy and Research, Robyn Clough at [policy@frsa.org.au](mailto:policy@frsa.org.au) or (02) 6162 1811.

**All Abstracts must be submitted online by 5.00pm AEDT, Wednesday 13 November 2024**

## 30 MINUTE PRESENTATIONS

Concurrent sessions are 30 minutes in length, including Q&A and can be interactive with the audience or with minimal interaction. Abstracts for a 30-minute presentation must be **between 200 and 400 words in length**.

## SYMPOSIUM OPTION

Staying within the Abstract guidelines outlined above, you may team up with three to five others to submit an abstract for a symposium. A symposium comprises a series of presentations organised around a common theme to engage the audience in critical reflection on key issues and questions relevant to the topic area. The duration of a symposium is around 90 minutes to allow time for three to five presenters to share and for discussion among attendees.

We encourage symposiums in which presenters and moderators/discussants represent different perspectives, such as from policymakers, practitioners, and academics.

To submit an abstract for a symposium there is no need for each presenter to submit an abstract. Each symposium requires a primary organiser who is the chair and will serve as the single point of contact in the submission process. Submissions must detail who the primary organiser is and who the other presenters are. The primary organiser must collate and order the presenters' ideas in a way that will best engage attendees, with the symposium abstracts being between **500 and 800 words**.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**13 November 2024** - Call for abstracts closes.

**20 December 2024** - Notification of acceptance begins.

**7 February 2025** - Speaker registrations close – after this date speakers will need to pay the appropriate Early Bird or Standard rate.

**3 March 2025** - Early Bird registrations close.

## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Your abstract will be assessed based on the following criteria:

1. The extent to which the author demonstrates an understanding of the impact of service delivery on clients and/or service providers in the chosen conference stream.
2. The extent to which the presentation reflects the conference theme.
3. The extent to which the presentation will be engaging and informative.

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While we welcome abstracts from everyone, priority in assessing abstracts will be given to individuals and organisations who are FRSA members. For information on becoming an FRSA member please view [our website](#) and/or contact us on (02) 6162 1811 or at [contact@frsa.org.au](mailto:contact@frsa.org.au).

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## NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Notifications of acceptance will be sent via e-mail to the submitting author from Monday 20 December 2024.

**Accepted abstracts will be published on the FRSA Conference website and in the FRSA 2025 Conference Delegate Handbook and App.**

## GENERAL POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

- All abstracts must contain original work of the presenting author(s).
- A presenting author must submit the abstract.
- Presenters named in the abstract as speakers should have considerable presentation skills.
- Abstracts must be submitted online by **5.00pm AEDT Wednesday 13 November 2024**.
- Abstracts will not be accepted via fax, mail, email or USB/CD.
- All required fields on the online abstract submission form must be completed.
- Those submitting abstracts must ensure that they have the support of their organisation/employer.
- This is a face-to-face event; it is expected that presentations will be made in person.
- Acceptance of papers will be on the basis of blind peer review (i.e. your name and organisation will not be known to assessors).
- The Conference Managers will not be held responsible for abstract submissions not received via the website or for submission errors caused by Internet service outages, hardware or software delays, power outages or unforeseen events.
- Abstracts **CANNOT** be amended or replaced after the call for abstracts closes on 5:00pm AEDT Wednesday 13 November 2024.
- Ensure that you **DO NOT** leave any abstracts in the Draft stage by the close date, abstracts left in the 'Draft' stage will not be reviewed.

## **OPTION TO SUBMIT A LONGER PAPER FOR THE FRSA E-JOURNAL**

Should your abstract be accepted, you will be invited to submit a longer paper for peer review. Should your longer paper be accepted, it will be published in the FRSA 2025 National Conference e-Journal. Previous e-Journals can be seen [here](#).

## **PORTAL QUERIES**

For technical queries regarding the portal, please get in touch with our Conference Organiser at [frsa@kaigi.com.au](mailto:frsa@kaigi.com.au).

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