**Described Transcript – Karmen’s long-form video**

**Audio Description:** A full screen graphic shows Aunty Karmen smiling to camera, on a peach coloured geometric background. Their name and description appear underneath them: ‘Aunty Karmen, foster carer’. There is a Queensland Foster and Kinship Care logo and a Queensland Government logo on the bottom right of screen. Mellow guitar music plays. The image transitions to Aunty Karmen unpegging towels from an outside washing line. A graphic animates onto the bottom of the screen, which reads “The child identified in this video is not in care”. Aunty Karmen folds the towels neatly as she puts them into a washing basket, before picking up the basket and heading back inside. There is a series of homely shots. A photo frame with the word “Family” at the top, a yellow toy car, a toy boat, soft animal toys on a bed. A basketball and some toy trucks sit on the grass next to the fence. The shot cuts to Aunty Karmen, sitting in an interview-style set up on the patio.

**Aunty Karmen:** My name's Karmen, but all the kids call me Aunty Karmen. I've been a carer for just over a year. I've had a little bit of a help myself, so I thought the best way that I could give back to the community was to be a foster carer. I got straight into it with long-term placement because I thought I could make a difference then for somebody's life.

**Audio Description:** Aunty Karmen sits at the kitchen table, doing a traditional dot painting of a turtle. She dips her brush into a pallete, applying more dots to the canvas around the turtle. The shot cuts to a series of Karmen’s art around the house, all in a similar style.

**Aunty Karmen:** I am a proud Warriburra woman from Mamu country, and my grandmother was born up on the Tablelands on the Beatrice River. Being Indigenous, you have like a big family. That's what we know, is family. When we're at home, I try to teach them everything about culture or language. It keeps them connected as well as that sense of belonging.

**Audio Description:** Aunty Karmen is walking on a bush trail, behind a group of children. We cannot see the identify of these children. Aunty Karmen is point out things in the bush as they walk. The shot cuts to Aunty Karmen sitting on a rock next to a small waterfall. The children are sitting around her on other rocks. They are talking and laughing together. The shot cuts to a large, mossy rock. Aunty Karmen and the children’s hands are lined up side by side, as the shot pans across them.

**Aunty Karmen:** Being a single mother, I work school hours so that enables me to be able to drop the kids off at school, go to work, and then once I finish work, I pick the kids up from school as well. So I can still work, still have the kids and carry on. The job gets done.

**Audio Description:** Aunty Karmen is outside with her son. They are planting seedlings into a small garden bed. Two dogs are running in the yard behind them. A close up shot of the young boy placing the seedling into a hole in the soil. Together, their hands press in the dirt around the seedling. The young boy patting the dirt to make it even. Aunty Karmen smiles at him.

**Aunty Karmen:** I already have a child with a disability, with two older kids already left home. I think I worried about how the dynamics would be about us all blending together as a family because that's what we are doing. We're blending as a family now, not just for tonight or tomorrow. You just have to have an open mind and sometimes it's not easy, but you know, the reward at the end of it is seeing the changes in the kids. Going from having no stability to having stability and then just seeing them shine and smile and just laugh and be happy again

**Audio Description:** Aunty Karmen’s son skims a rock into the water near the creek. Aunty Karmen is pointing at objects in the water to the children. There is a close up shot of the water flowing through the creek. Three sets of feet dangle near the water’s edge. The shot cuts to Aunty Karmen juggling rocks, trying to make the children laugh, and laughing herself as she does so.

**Aunty Karmen:** These kids just need that safe, loving home. If you've got that room in your heart and that open mind and just that willingness to want to help somebody, just do it.

**Audio Description:** A series of shots. Various family photos in frames. A jar of lollies. A hand-painted rock with the words “I love you” written on it. A mug that says “Best Mum”. A bucket full of chalk sits next to a wooden fence, decorated with chalk drawings of various animals.

**Aunty Karmen:** I think once you get some little kids into your care and you hear some of their stories, I mean they're going to melt your heart. You'll want to do it.

**Audio Description:** Aunty Karmen and the children walk through the bush. Aunty Karmen looks up at the trees around, talking and smiling to the children as she does so. A Queensland Government logo graphic appears, with a URL underneath it. This reads: qld.gov.au/fostercare . The screen then transitions to an authorisation statement, reading: Authorised by the Queensland Government, William St, Brisbane.