

support-hope-inspire-nurture-empower

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## SHINE for Kids CALLS FOR GREATER CORPORATE SUPPORT

An organisation dedicated to helping the children of parents who are sent to prison has challenged Australia's corporate sector to give greater support to its work.

The Chair of **SHINE for Kids**, Ms Helen Wiseman, told attendees at a function at Silverwater today that the business world had a vested interest in putting an end to intergenerational offending.

"When a parent is sent to prison, these children suffer terribly—and it's through no fault of their own," Ms Wiseman said.

"In the longer term, these kids do not meet their potential and are at high risk of themselves committing offences.

"This is not just a terrible personal tragedy but comes at a real economic cost to Australian society."

Ms Wiseman said that there were currently more than 40,000 such children across Australia and much of the SHINE for Kids' funding came from governments.

"However, we would be delighted to see more corporations stepping up to help our work with these children and we challenge them to do so," she said.

"It is in the financial interest of business and the Australian economy that these kids be encouraged to succeed in life."

For three decades **SHINE** for **Kids**, a non-profit organisation supported by governments and other benefactors and stakeholders, has worked with and for young Australians affected by family member involvement in the criminal justice system. The organisation has supported them, helped create hope and inspired them to reach their potential.

The Chief Executive Officer of SHINE for Kids, Ms Gloria Larman, said that in the USA today, an award-winning documentary on the imprisoned was being broadcast nationally.

"This powerful production, called 'Mothers of Bedford', shows how devastating this experience can be for kids," Ms Larman said.

"I look forward to an Australian network broadcasting this film so that people in Australia can see the impact of this issue on generations of children."

Ms Larman said that a trailer for the documentary could be seen on YouTube at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxrwviqwyRo#t=27">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxrwviqwyRo#t=27</a>

In NSW, **SHINE for Kids** is located at Silverwater, Parklea, Windsor, Kariong, Bathurst, Cessnock, Wellington, Junee and Kempsey. In Victoria, there is an office at Footscray and programs operating at Lara (Barwon) and Ravenhall. There is also a program operating in Canberra at the Alexander Maconochie facility.

More information on SHINE for Kids can be found at www.shineforkids.org.au

CONTACT: For media inquiries, please contact Jim Maher at Leading Edge Public Affairs on 0403 044 216.