



SHINE for Kids

MEDIA RELEASE

support-hope-inspire-nurture-empower

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CROWD-FUNDING CAMPAIGN AIMS TO SAVE AXED PROGRAM

SHINE for Kids has launched a funding campaign through social media, aimed at saving a successful program which has been axed in the Federal Budget.

“We need \$72,500 but no individual donation is too small if enough people contribute,” the Chief Executive Officer of SHINE for Kids, Gloria Larman, said today.

The *Belonging to Family* program is tailored towards Aboriginal prisoners at Kempsey and their families and has supported 79 inmates and 459 children.

“Out of these ‘medium to high risk habitual offenders’ just under 65 per cent have not re-offended or returned to prison since participating in *Belonging to Family*,” Ms Gloria Larman said.

“This program uses group work to maintain and strengthen the connections between Aboriginal inmates and their partners, their children and community.

“It has been a proven success in assisting offenders back into community life but now the Federal Government has now axed all financial support for the program.”

Ms Larman said that only widespread public support could now save the program.

“We have raised a few thousand dollars so far but we need \$72,500 to maintain this program. Let me emphasise that even a five-dollar donation can make a real difference. Crowd funding enables regular people to simply donate whatever they can afford. When many people choose to make even modest donations, they have the power to make a significant difference in the world”

Donations can be made by visiting:

<https://www.chuffed.org/project/help-save-our-belonging-to-family-program>

SHINE for Kids Co-operative Ltd ABN 60 662 072 775

Helping children with a parent in the criminal justice system and their families throughout New South Wales, ACT and Victoria
Head office PO Box 67, Ermington NSW 1700 • tel 02 9714 3000 • fax 02 9714 3030 • inquiries@shineforkids.org.au
Locations at Silverwater, Parklea, Winesor, Bathurst, Cessnock, Wellington, Junee, Kempsey, Kariong, Canberra, Footscray, Lara and Ravenhall

www.shineforkids.org.au

Ms Larman said that Federal Government funding had previously enabled SHINE for Kids to employ three Aboriginal support workers, backed up by 40 volunteers helping with the program.

“These workers are hanging in there with the program in the hope that people will give generously and save *Belonging To Family*,” Ms Larman said.

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.

In NSW, **SHINE for Kids** centres are 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 or email jmaher@leadingedgepa.com