

Commissioner Carmody to meet with young people in care

19 October 2012

The Child Protection Commission of Inquiry, in partnership with the CREATE Foundation, will hold focus groups in the coming weeks with young people in out-of-home care.

These groups will be held in Rockhampton, Ipswich and Toowoomba, and will give Commissioner Carmody the opportunity to meet with young people who are, or have been, in out-of-home care.

"I'm looking forward to hearing what these young people have to say about their time in care," said Commissioner Carmody.

"Children are the most important stakeholder in the child protection system and it's vital that I have the chance to listen to their stories."

The meetings are an essential part of the Commission's efforts to hear first-hand stories from people who have had direct experience with the child protection system.

Since CREATE Foundation was established, children and young people from Queensland have courageously shared their stories regarding their lived care experience with the organisation.

CREATE Foundation believes that how Queensland cares for some its most vulnerable children and young people is everybody's business, said Ms Jacqui Reed, the organisation's CEO.

"As the peak consumer body for children and young people with a care experience, CREATE Foundation has been working to ensure children and young people have their voices heard in the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry," commented Ms Reed.

"CREATE is very pleased with the focus groups taking place as they enable the Commissioner, Tim Carmody, to hear first-hand about people's care experience."

ENDS

Media note: The focus groups are closed to the media and the public.

If you would like to arrange a story with a young person please contact Leigh at CREATE.

Due to the nature of the Inquiry and its hearings it is not appropriate for the Commissioner or other representatives of the Inquiry to make further comment at this stage.

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<http://www.childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au/>

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About CREATE Foundation: CREATE Foundation is the peak body representing the voices of all children and young people in out-of-home care. CREATE Foundation relies on community support for its projects. Learn more at www.create.org.au