



Open Family Australia
...knows the street.

NEWS ALERT
21 April, 2009

GOVERNOR-GENERAL TO VISIT OPEN FAMILY AUSTRALIA

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia will visit Open Family Australia's Footscray office on Wednesday April 22 at 3.00pm as part of her trip to Victoria this week.

Ms Bryce, who recently became a patron for Open Family Australia, will be accompanied by the Honourable John Brumby MP, Premier of Victoria.

The Governor-General and Premier will meet with Open Family Australia street outreach workers and young people who access the centre to discuss the issues facing homeless youth in Victoria.

Open Family Australia has been providing outreach support and services to at-risk and homeless youth for more than 30 years. According to the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs there are currently 32,444 youths between 12 to 24 years who are homeless in Australia.

Open Family Australia's Footscray office provides a wide range of services to young people in Melbourne's Western suburbs including a pharmacotherapy program to assist young people off illicit drugs, the Back To School program helping young people stay in school and the Beanbag Net Centre which provides computers and internet access.

The office is also a focal point for the Redskins Basketball Club and Soccer Noodles program which use the power of team sport to rehabilitate at-risk young people and help connect them back into their community.

Open Family Australia currently operates throughout Victoria, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

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