

MEDIA RELEASE

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creating a better life
for children and young
people in care

OLD WAYS NO LONGER WORK – CREATE SUPPORTS THE CALL FOR A NATIONAL APPROACH

CREATE applauds the determination and commitment from every state and territory towards improving the child protection system and further to this, some states' invitation to the Turnbull government to consider a national approach to child protection.

Systemic reform being underway is evidenced by the level of Inquiries across the nation. CREATE Foundation Chief Executive, Ms Jacqui Reed states that a new approach is needed to enable positive improvement in child protection.

"Today there are eight separate Inquiries underway across our nation," said Ms Reed. "There is no shortage of *common will* or evidence to support where the funds and resources need to be directed to radically improve the child protection sector."

CREATE supports the states that are currently urging the commonwealth to take the lead, leading to strengthening the system from within. Otherwise, the system could remain under strain and if there was national consistency, along with best practise through leadership and high standards, children and young people with a care experience can have the same opportunities as others.

"CREATE is calling for change in the form of the Honourable Minister Porter to recognise this effort of all states and territories, and lead on this through a common national approach on child protection," said Ms Reed.

Today's children in care are our future and although it is encouraging to see a national approach somewhat in the redress scheme, CREATE asserts it is the time to overhaul the old approach and lead from the front with commonwealth support.

Over 43,000 Australian children and young people live in out-of-home care (i.e. foster, residential, kinship care) after they are removed from their families. CREATE Foundation is the peak consumer body representing the voices of children and young people in out-of-home care, providing programs and services to create a better life for children and young people in care. Read more at www.create.org.au

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