



Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Inc.

Tel: 03 9489 8099 Web: www.snaicc.asn.au Fax: 03 9489 8044

MEDIA RELEASE

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New resource to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people develop child safe communities

The SNAICC Resource Service has distributed over 600 *Through Young Black Eyes Workshop Kits* free to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, family workers and services around the nation.

The kits will assist communities to take local action to prevent child abuse, neglect and family violence and propose six steps to develop a child-safe community. Ms Muriel Bamblett, AM, SNAICC Chairperson, said today: "The SNAICC Resource Service has developed a unique new resource to help concerned community members and service providers run workshops on developing child safe communities."

She added, "This national release is timely in relation to the recent Report of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) Review Board. A key recommendation of which was to develop community child and family safety plans linking key government services with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait community organisations and community members."

Ms Bamblett said, "Minister Jenny Macklin said in response to that report that there will be an immediate, renewed emphasis on community engagement to build the foundations for more lasting change. SNAICC supports the Minister in this and we urge all communities to take up this new resource and the challenge of protecting children."

She added "In every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, there are already strong people taking action on these issues. This kit contains practical ideas to help them run workshops, share stories and take local actions to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children be safe and happy.

The kit includes information and activity sheets, posters, pamphlets, short films, support services directory and a workshop facilitators guide. All of which can be adapted to suit local community needs. The material is available in hard copy or can be downloaded online from www.snaicc.asn.au

The SNAICC Resource Service is funded by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

SNAICC is the national peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families. For more information on SNAICC and *Through Young Black Eyes Workshop Kit* visit our website: www.snaicc.asn.au/publications

Media Comment: Ms Muriel Bamblett, SNAICC Chairperson: 03 9489 8099 - or - Julian Pocock - SNAICC Executive Officer: 03 9489 8099

Media inquiries: Mark Lawrence, SNAICC Publications Officer: 03 9489 8099