

A new centre for Sydney Metro

Barnardos' newest Childrens Family Centre was officially opened by the Hon. Linda Burney MP, Minister for Community Services and Minister for Women on 17th November 2009.

The new Sydney Metro Centre integrates a range of support services for children, young people and their families across the inner city, inner west and south east Sydney areas within one single location.

These services include the Yurungai Kin Care and Family Preservation Service, the Yurungai Learning Centre, the Aboriginal Early Years program, South East Sydney Temporary Family Care and Kids Speak.

Barnardos has been working directly with the communities of Redfern and Waterloo since 2003 and we continue to provide services in this area. The establishment of this new centre is an exciting development as it means we can better serve the community with a larger range of family support and education services.



Ben Ross South Sydney Rabbitohs, the Hon. Linda Burney MP, Louise Voigt CEO Barnardos, Kerry Moore Senior Manager Barnardos and Crispin Hull Chair Barnardos

Talking Realities

It's not easy to be a first-time mother. It's even harder if you're young, single and do not have anyone to turn to or the knowledge to seek the right advice.

Talking Realities is a young parenting peer education program in the Shellharbour area that Barnardos has been running as part of the federal government's Communities for Children initiative. Funded under the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy the initiative is an early intervention strategy aimed at achieving the best possible start in life for children.

Barnardos was appointed facilitating partner for the 'Communities for Children' program in the Shellharbour local municipality for three years and following the successful outcomes have been reappointed for a further three years.

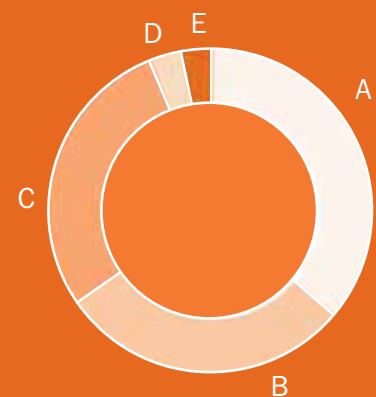
The Talking Realities program aims to fill the gap in education for teenagers facing pregnancy. Five young mums have trained as educators and visit high schools in the Illawarra area addressing issues associated with motherhood and offering advice about how to embrace the responsibilities of being a parent.

Welfare expenditure

During the 2008-2009 financial year Barnardos delivered vital services to over 6,000 Australian children and young people.

The global financial crisis hit all of us hard – but every day is a crisis for the children and families we work with. During the last financial year we faced a sudden downturn in income and turned to our loyal donors for support and they didn't let us down. Many have continued to dig deep – both into their pockets and their hearts – to provide us with vital funds to keep our essential programs running.

Our ability to maintain our services and continue to be an independent voice for vulnerable young Australians is only possible with the investment of our loyal and valued donors and corporate supporters. We recognise and thank each and every individual and organisation who through their generosity showed us that they share our belief in children.



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