

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## BARNARDOS HOSTS BREAKFAST FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN FOR ANTI-POVERTY WEEK

Barnardos, the Children's Charity, are marking Anti-Poverty Week (October 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>) by hosting a breakfast for around 1,000 children from Auburn Public School.

The breakfast will be held on **Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup>** at Auburn Public School (Cnr. Auburn Rd & Beatrice St, Auburn) from 8.30 am.

Anti-Poverty week is a national and global event seeking to draw attention to the plight of the world's poor and disadvantaged. The Week's main aims are to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship and to encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems.

Poverty and severe hardship affect more than **one in ten Australians**. Around the world, more than **1 billion people** are desperately poor. According to Australian Council of Social Services figures, there are **1 in 4 children** in Australia today living in poverty.

Barnardos Auburn Children's Family centre in conjunction with the staff and children of Auburn Public School want to draw attention to the plight of children who may be living in poverty through a sharing of food and resources at a breakfast.

Rosemary Hamill, Senior Manager of the Barnardos Auburn Centre says that child poverty can contribute to social problems including neglect, abuse and homelessness.

"Children and young people growing up in poverty lack the basics of good health, education and a secure place to live. Therefore, these children are more vulnerable to family breakdown and exploitation. Barnardos aims to assist children, young people and their families move out of poverty and reach their full potential."

Paralympian Louise Sauvage will be attending the breakfast to encourage children to strive for their goals and not let life's adversities get in the way of their dreams.

"As individuals we all face challenges – some good and some not so good. We all need support and a helping hand throughout our lives. There is no way I could have achieved what I have without support and encouragement along the way. That's why I believe in the importance of 'community' and the contribution we can all make in ensuring we are all given the best possible opportunity at a healthy, happy life".

Barnardos Auburn Children's Family Centre provides support to families - many of whom are struggling with the effects of poverty. The Centre's programs include: Family and Youth Support; Temporary Accommodation and Foster Care, Mentoring, Childcare, Domestic Violence and Child & Adolescent Sexual Assault Counselling. If you would like to support Barnardos in their work with families contact 1800 061 000 or visit the website: [www.barnardos.org.au](http://www.barnardos.org.au)

***For media enquires please contact: Sofey Youssef, Barnardos:***

***Tel: (02) 9743 2790 Mob: 0419 272 237 or [sofey@bigpicture.com.au](mailto:sofey@bigpicture.com.au)***

# MEDIA RELEASE



*"Barnardos staff serving breakfast to children from Auburn Public School"*



*"Barnardos staff with Louise Sauvage"*