## Premier to attend Remembrance Day event for Child Protection Week

Tuesday 6 September 2016

The Premier of Queensland, Annastacia Palaszczuk, will be attending a special Remembrance Day event to be held in Brisbane tomorrow as part of Queensland Child Protection Week.

The Hon Shannon Fentiman MP, Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, will also attend the Brisbane Remembrance Day event.

Remembrance Day is held each year to acknowledge the legacy of past failures in the Child Protection system, and the courage and determination of survivors in seeking justice.

This year's event is particularly relevant, as the Queensland Parliament is in the process of introducing legislation that would remove the statute of limitations for victims of child sex abuse.

The <u>Historical Abuse Network</u> and many individual survivors have been calling for the removal of the Statute of Limitations for over 20 years. It was a key recommendation of the 'Unfinished Business' report which was delivered to the Queensland Government in response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Institutional Responses to Child Sex Abuse, which also recommended the establishment of a National Redress Scheme.

"The secrecy of the past has been broken, and community expectations on accountability for children in State care have changed," says Karyn Walsh, CEO of Micah Projects.

"It is essential that we address the great moral injury in our communities, and that we continue to have public events recognizing the courage and determination of the many people who experienced great harm in institutions which were established and entrusted with the care and support of vulnerable children, and ensure that abuse and neglect of the past does not happen again.

"Additionally, we must continue to work for a cross-government and community organisation commitment to ensure the safety and well-being of children in their homes, institutional settings such as schools, churches, community and cultural settings and in an out-of-home care system which values children, family, carers and organisations, and encourages them to work together for the well-being of children." Karyn Walsh.

## **Remembrance Day Brisbane**

11am Wednesday 7 September 2016 Roof Terrace, Level 4 Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA), South Bank Followed by light refreshments

## **About Lotus Place**

<u>Lotus Place</u> is a dedicated support service and resource centre for adults who experienced childhood abuse in an institutional setting or in out-of-home care.

It is due to the hard work of the Historical Abuse Network, and a commitment by State and Federal Governments to those who were harmed in church, state, foster care, detention centres and adult mental health institutions that Lotus Place was established. It was the first of its kind in Australia.

## Media inquiries:

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