

Statement of Acknowledgement for children placed in Burnside's care

We acknowledge that many children placed in our care until 1990 did not receive the consistent and loving care that they needed and deserved.

It is now recognised that caring for children and young people who cannot live with their family must include regular and meaningful family contact, placement with siblings, consistent care givers and support for them to understand their experience of being in care. We acknowledge that for many children and young people, this was not the case.

For the children and young people who did not receive the consistent love and care that they needed and deserved, we are sorry.

For the children and young people who were neglected, mistreated and abused, we are sorry.

For the families who entrusted their children to us and whose expectations were not met, we are sorry.

To the Forgotten Australians, we stand committed to responding promptly, compassionately and respectfully to those who wish to approach us about their care experiences.

This apology was first made on behalf of church and non-government agencies in Sydney on the 19th September 2009 at the Healing Service and commemoration for the Forgotten Australians.

This is our apology to the many people who have been placed under our care since 1911. UnitingCare Burnside is part of the Uniting Church of Australia. For further information please contact our after-care worker on 9768 6890. Our policy can be found on our website www.burnside.org.au

Claerwen Little - Director UnitingCare Children, Young People & Families
ph 9768 6866 fax 9630 6210 clittle@burnside.org.au