

Minister Zoe Bettison

Minister for Social Housing
Minister for Youth

Friday, 12 September, 2014

Together 4 Kids receives gong for tackling youth homelessness

Social Housing Minister Zoe Bettison has congratulated Together 4 Kids for winning the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) 'Play Your Part' award.

The award recognises the organisations' hard work and contribution to the homelessness sector over the past four years.

"Together 4 Kids has been announced as the State winner of the 'Play Your Part' award for its inspiring initiatives in the sector," Ms Bettison said.

"With the support of State Government funding, Together 4 Kids has been able to provide a wide range of new services and support programs for children experiencing homelessness.

"Together 4 Kids is one of several specialist homelessness programs developed as part of sector wide reforms in 2010, and is the only child focused support service in the SA homelessness sector.

"The reforms identified the need to deliver specialist services to children experiencing or at risk of homelessness, to be recognised, registered and respected as individual clients with specific needs.

"Together 4 Kids was established by Relationships Australia SA to improve the wellbeing, safety and education of children needing homelessness services.

"Since its inception Together 4 Kids has helped more than 600 children through individual support services and over 400 children have participated in group programs."

Programs offered include play and art therapy, education and support to children and their carers.

"Together 4 Kids also increases awareness of the needs of children, and improves services delivered to children by the broader homelessness sector by providing training to other service providers on delivering services to children," Ms Bettison said.

"The State Government is proud to support such an important organisation, and we look forward to seeing its future achievements in the homelessness sector.

The Play Your Part awards are run by the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN), and were first presented in 2012 as a part of National Child Protection Week.