



Healing Foundation
Strong Spirit • Strong Culture • Strong People

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Seven years on from the Apology, Stolen Generations tell their stories - Media Alert

27 January 2015

Communities across Australia will come together in February to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the Australian Parliament's formal apology to members of the Stolen Generations.

Under the theme - *Heal our Past, Build our Future, Telling Our Stories* – commemoration events will include family fun days, photo exhibitions, yarning circles and men's/women's healing events which will particularly focus on the telling of the personal stories of Stolen Generations people.

Key events will take place in Western Sydney and Lismore with the Western Sydney event to include a fascinating insight into the history of Aboriginal experiences in NSW with a presentation from 'Victor's Story' documenting the 120 year journey of six generations of one Aboriginal family over highlighting the social injustices commonly experienced by Aboriginal families across the country.

In Lismore local Aboriginal healing organisation, Rekindling the Spirit, will host an event featuring stories from members of the Stolen Generation which will be collated along with a series of photographs creating an historical cultural record acknowledging the continuing impact of Government policies of removing Aboriginal children.

In Canberra on 12 February the Healing Foundation will host an online "Webinar" featuring guest speakers sharing their unique life stories with a focus on how they have healed and continue to heal from the trauma of being stolen from their families.

Local events supported by a series of micro grants from the Healing Foundation will take place across the country including Bourke (NSW), Cairns (Qld), Collingwood (Vic), Stradbroke Island (Qld), Mildura (Vic), Murray Bridge (SA), Canning Vale (WA) and Katherine (NT).

The Healing Foundation is a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation with a focus on community led healing solutions and creating culturally strong, community designed and delivered pathways to healing.

Editors and Chiefs of Staff please save this date in your diaries. Photos and interviews with participants in commemoration events can be arranged. For a list of events go to <http://healingfoundation.org.au/2015-events/>

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