MEDIA RELEASE
22nd October 2012

Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare Inc.

100 Years 1913 2013

Royal Commission into child sexual abuse

The Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare welcomes Prime Minister Gillard's announcement of a royal commission into child sex abuse.

This royal commission is vital to understand the scale of sexual atrocities committed against children, investigate the scope of institutional cover-ups, and develop strategies to protect future generations from these despicable crimes.

The Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare believes that the Commission needs to have terms of reference which provide for focused investigations and consideration of services and supports required for victims.

The knowledge acquired through the royal commission process must inform national approaches to addressing the circumstances of children who are being abused, and lead strategies to prevent abuse. Community education policies should be included within this scope.

We applaud the government's commitment to protecting Australia's children and young people through the announcement of the royal commission, and acknowledge the bipartisan support offered.

The royal commission will provide an opportunity for victims to have their experiences heard and lead the delivery of justice to both perpetrators and those that failed to act once informed of these horrific crimes. While nothing can undo the damage caused by sexual abuse of children, recognition and delivery of justice is a crucial part of the healing process.

The Centre has made a submission to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and Other Organisations, and will continue to represent our members throughout the royal commission.

Contacts

Alistair Perkins
Media Officer
9614 1577
alistair.perkins@cfecfw.asn.au

Kevin Larkins
Interim CEO
9614 1577
kevin.larkins@cfecfw.asn.au