



CREATE Foundation National Office
Level 6, 280 Pitt St, Sydney NSW 2000
T: 02 9267 1999 or 1800 655 105 www.create.org.au



MEDIA ALERT

4 December 2013

THE POWER WITHIN PORTRAIT EXHIBITION LAUNCH IN VIC

The Power Within Exhibition is a photographic collaboration of 24 young people and high profile Australians, each with an out-of-home care experience (i.e. foster, kinship and residential care). The portrait exhibition is set to tour Australia with Victoria's free of charge event taking place 8-9.30am, Tuesday 10, December in The River Room, Crown, Melbourne.

Over 38,000 children and young people live in care increasing by 9% p.a. Through no fault of their own, children and young people may be placed in care due to neglect or abuse. Young people in care experience social isolation, stigma and chronic low self-esteem. They feel unconnected, disempowered and unable to do anything about it.

The exhibition presents a candid and honest insight into the lives of people with a care experience, who overcame adversity to achieve a successful life in their own right.

The Power Within project enables young people with a care experience to have an independent voice, to be empowered and to be inspired through meeting a successful adult who has overcome adversity. The aim of the national portrait exhibition is to enhance community awareness and to reduce the stigma experienced by children and young people with a care experience.

High profile Australians involved in the project include David Hill (business leader, advocate, writer and CREATE Patron), Linda Burney (MP, Shadow Minister for Families), Betty Klimenko (business woman and Westfield heiress), Paul Howes (National Secretary of the Australian Workers Union), Stephen Smith (Lyric Tenor (Opera) and CREATE Ambassador), Layne Beachley (multiple world champion female surfer, motivational speaker), Sam Bui (My Kitchen Rules TV celebrity and entrepreneur), Lewis Abdulah (WA Young Person of the year 2013) and Fay Alford (Foster Care Association of WA Director), and many more.

CREATE Foundation is the peak consumer body for children and young people in care. We are a not-for-profit organisation connecting and empowering children and young people in care and improving the care system through activities, programs, training and policy advice. Learn more at www.create.org.au

To arrange a media interview with Ms Jacqui Reed, CEO CREATE Foundation, a high profile Australian from the portrait exhibition, or a young person with a care experience, please contact Leigh White.

media enquiries Leigh White | 0431 932 122 | leigh@whitemarketing.com.au