

KEEPING THEM HOME

The most recent data shows that the number of children being moved into out-of-home care in the Northern Territory has just about doubled since 2007. Two-thirds of these children are being placed with non-Indigenous families away from their communities.

Elder Rev Dr Djiniyini Gondarra, as spokesperson for Yolngu Makarr Dhuni calls for this trend to be reversed by increasing family support services in communities. He has written to the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, Adam Giles, asking him for his support. His letter is attached.

Dr Gondarra reminds us that,

A Yolngu child has a spirituality, his own 'skin', his culture, language, and place in his community. He belongs to that country and its people. You are committing a deep wrong by taking that away from him.

And,

The experience of the Stolen Generations clearly shows how forced separation from their families has caused deep psychological trauma that has led more of our people to substance abuse, contact with the criminal courts and family breakdown.

We know Adam Giles cares about the welfare of children. Please **give your support** by writing, emailing or telephoning Adam asking him to:

- Increase Aboriginal-managed Family Support services in all Aboriginal communities including the establishment of Family Group Conferencing processes when there are concerns regarding child safety
- Reverse the decision that cut funds to the Community Sector

This is a matter of urgency. We do not wish to see the emergence of another Stolen Generation.

NT Chief Minister Adam Giles:

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