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For immediate release

NT Royal Commission report: an opportunity for political and judicial action

Making Justice Work calls for political and judicial action to seize the opportunity this Royal Commission provides to undo the historical inadequacy of responses to Australian Royal Commissions.

Leeanne Caton, Acting CEO CAALAS says,

“It is our collective responsibility not to let this report, its recommendations and stories gather dust, as so many before it have.”

“The findings and recommendations of the Commission were informed by young people and their families who bravely shared their first hand experiences in the youth justice and care and protection systems during the course of the Commission. These experiences were often highly sensitive and traumatic, and were shared in good faith in the hope of contributing to positive change.”

Priscilla Collins CEO of the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency says,

“The Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments have a responsibility to honour the courageous individuals who shared their experiences with the Royal Commission, by making a clear commitment to properly resource, implement and support all recommendations.”

“The explicit needs of families from towns and communities across the Territory must be acknowledged through fair and dedicated funding of community identified and driven programs, beyond the Berrimah Line.”

Sam Bowden, Making Justice Work Coordinator says,

“Making Justice Work looks forward to working with the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments, and the Northern Territory Judiciary to ensure that the Commission’s recommendations are implemented in a reasonable timeframe, and led by Aboriginal people, communities and organisations.”

“The Royal Commission report offers an opportunity for the Northern Territory to provide preventative, culturally competent and therapeutic responses for young people before, and if, they come into contact with our youth justice and care and protection systems”.

Children, young people, their families and others feeling upset or distressed by the Royal Commission can call 1800 500 853 – [a free helpline answered locally, available 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.](#)

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Making Justice Work is a coalition of over 40 organisations from across the NT with a common interest in effective responses to crime in our community. Our asks and proposed reforms are available on our [website](#)