

## Statement of Reconciliation

Barnardos Australia acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the traditional custodians of Australia. We also acknowledge the past and commit to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to achieve:

“A united Australia which respects this land of ours; values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and provides justice and equity for all”. (Vision of the Council of Aboriginal Reconciliation)

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first Australians, with unique cultures, languages and spiritual relationships to the land and seas. We are strongly committed to improving the lives of children and young people and to uphold the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to be cared for within their own communities and remain connected to their families, communities and culture.

Barnardos is committed to the Operating Principles of the agency, that is, keep the child and young person central, strengthen families, relate respectfully, value people’s knowledge, pursue social justice and be persistent for change.

We will:

- Develop policies and deliver services that are appropriate and relevant to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people, families and communities in conjunction with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff
- Work in positive and practical ways with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to achieve generations of success for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people, families and communities
- Promote and raise awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues within the Organisation and in the broader community
- Commit to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy Plan
- Demonstrate leadership in reconciliation


For Barnardos, reconciliation means working in a meaningful and respectful way with Aboriginal families and communities. It is a commitment of Barnardos to work in collaboration and partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, organisations and communities.



Chair



Chief Executive Officer



Barnardos Indigenous Group Member

Dated: 31st October, 2012



### Seek. Reach. and Solve Wiradjuri Ngaaga-Marra-Marra

The painting depicts Workers reaching out into the communities near and far lending a helping hand trying to reconcile families.

Centre-piece: This contains the board members with the circled meeting places in which the board members meet often to discuss work issues.

Hands in Circles: These are the workers reaching out into the communities all around. The different coloured hands and circles show the different nationalities that work within the workplace and that Barnardos not only work with one race of people but with all different nationalities.

Footsteps: depicts the workers travelling from place to place, always on the move.

Weapons: These represent the knowledge that one learns and never forgets and always able to pass it on.

Boomerang: This represents the seating of the board discussing ideas.

Buujang: A man of wisdom overseeing all that the workers do.

T Sloane, 2009