

The Healing Way for Forgotten

Australians Inc.

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12th January, 2009

Dear Towards Healing Team,

We are writing to you as a healing group who wishes to support the healing and moving on for “Forgotten Australians” of the Catholic faith who have lost their beliefs system of faith. We wish to inform you of a survey that the healing way has compiled over 6 years that shows us that 94% of all those in religious care are not actively practicing or acknowledging any religious faith. Belonging to this large statistic is the partners in marriage and their children from the marriage. This group nominated above carry the same indifferences towards religion generally.

As a healing group for “Forgotten Australians” we are working towards workshops that enable us to correct this serious situation. In regard to this loss of religious faith we are greatly concerned at how detrimental this impact has been to all of our spiritual, emotional and physical health as a society. As a group in the healing area we wish to support the Towards Healing process by offering our advocacy to the individual going through the process and afterwards in the offering of workshops.

These workshops will bring people into contact with other “Forgotten Australians” who can relate to each other in a supportive, safe environment. The workshops will attend to the issues in regard to frustration, anger and trust. Your support in this area would help many Forgotten Australians and their families to move on with practical tools to use to bring about a more rewarding life.

We wish to impress upon you the importance of your assistance in a practical way by providing our group with the space and accommodation for these important workshops to be put into action. Could the Towards Healing process consider a package of practical support to offer all the Forgotten Australians who partake in the Towards Healing process as part of this important area of concern?

The Healing Way founding members are both Kincumber Children’s Home care leavers who knew Father Patrick Croke extremely well. Father Croke had a dream for Killarney or The outback as the older generation would call this lovely area. This dream has been actioned with a beautiful camp erected at Killarney where we know that he would love to see the hurt children have healing. Father Croke also taught us that the community is always a part of the support mechanism for the parish. We can see that this area of support could be ignited to assist in the programme of providing for the workshops in suppling food and other material support work. This would bring the local Christian people into the healing area and connect all of our community in a way that would bring a harmony and peace to all. This programme could then be spread into other parishes allowing the healing process to gather momentum in order to connect and share the burden for this important healing to take place.

The Healing Way has recently supported a Forgotten Australian in the Towards Healing process in Sydney in December 2008. As a support person in the process I was impressed with the actions in the Towards Healing process that I observed. As professionals in our work we would only be asking a fee that would cover our costs in transport, accommodation and loss of wages. This fee would be dramatically less than

the fee that a legal person would ask for this service. Some part of this saving could be moved towards the cost of running the workshops with the rest of the compensation could be in the pockets of the “Forgotten Australians”.

At present The Healing Way is providing these workshops at Lotus Place in Brisbane specifically tailored for the needs of “Forgotten Australians”. Lotus Place is a government body supporting “Forgotten Australians” who were in Queensland institutions. We will be running these workshops in NSW and Victoria in 2009. We would like to organize a meeting with the Towards Healing Team as soon as possible in order to attend to the needs of our people.

Yours in healing

Mary Brownlee nee Corry

Lawrie Higgins

Founding Members

The Healing Way for Forgotten Australians Inc.