

# Help for forgotten families



SUNSHINE Coast women and their children who are at risk of homelessness will continue receiving vital support thanks to more than \$1 million in Queensland Government funding.

Community Services and Housing Minister Karen Struthers has announced Sunny Kids Inc, through their Najidah service, will receive the funding over three years to support women and children affected by family and domestic violence.

"Najidah provides an important service to women and their children in the North Coast region who are affected by family and domestic violence by offering specialist homelessness supported accommodation and services," Ms Struthers said.

"Over the past 12 months, they've helped 42 clients and 104 children and this funding will enable the service to continue to provide temporary accommodation for people in crisis and help those most in need.

"Homelessness is a complex issue, which is why community-based services like

Najidah are so important. Their support gives people hope and the chance to get their lives back on track."

Ms Struthers said the funding formed part of the Queensland Government's commitment to providing greater support services for vulnerable people across the State.

"The Queensland Government recently provided \$142,000 to Centacare Catholic and Family Services to provide domestic violence safety audits on people's homes," she said.

"This service improves domestic violence victims' home security, enabling them to stay safely in their own homes and reducing the risk of women and children being made homeless through violence.

"I also recently launched 'Opening Doors', our three-year strategy for reducing homelessness.

"The strategy has three priorities - helping people avoid becoming homeless, helping people get ahead, and working together for stronger services."

Do you have a story to tell? Contact editor@maroochyjournal.com.au

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