



Care Leavers Australia Network

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MEDIA RELEASE

\$26.5 MILLION FOR CARE LEAVERS IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET

For the first time in Australia's history Care Leavers/Remembered Australians have been recognised in the Federal Budget with the announcement of \$26.5 million over 4 years for the Find and Connect Service for Care Leavers.

CLAN – the national support and advocacy network welcomes this announcement.

This funding gives acknowledgement of the very real need, for many Care Leavers who have lost their families while in the care of every State Government, the Churches and the Charities that ran the 600+ orphanages and Children's Homes Australia once had.

Many of our members have spent many thousands of dollars on private detectives, telephone calls, Internet searches and FOI requests in the quest to reconnect with lost brothers and sisters, parents and even children from the same orphanages and Children's Homes that they were raised in.

For many Care Leavers the continuous search without support has taken a toll on them both psychologically and emotionally and in some cases has resulted in not finding anyone due to lack of records or support.

Jenny Macklin MP and the Federal Government should be commended for the funding for the Find and Connect service; the case management and counselling support services, the national website and a national 1800 telephone number.

Care Leavers, Remembered Australians, will eagerly be awaiting the launch of this vital service.

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