

outcomes

Keeping you in touch



BoysTown

Celebrating



BoysTown... The beginning



BoysTown... Today

BoysTown's founders, Monsignor Owen Steele and the De La Salle Brothers, could not have imagined their vision of caring for 'homeless and neglected' young men would have such a lasting or wide reaching impact on the Australian community.

On 23 May 1961, BoysTown welcomed the first group of young people into our residential care program at Beaudesert, Queensland. At the residential peak, a total of 110 young men were cared for annually. Today, we provide an extensive range of services to tens of thousands of children, young people and families across Australia.

Recognising many more young people needed help and support, BoysTown first expanded our services in 1991, creating the national telephone counselling service Kids Helpline. In the same year, youth welfare and advocacy services opened in Logan, Queensland.

By the time the residential school closed in 2001, BoysTown had set up Parentline, a telephone counselling service for parents and carers in Queensland. We also extended services to caring for young people who were mentally ill; chronically exposed to drug taking; those in prison or just released; assisted and supported young mothers and children through our Glugor House parenting programs; and offered paid on-the-job training through our own work enterprises.

In 2011, BoysTown continues to grow nationally and now has offices in Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia. We operate family refuges, and have extended Parentline into the Northern Territory. BoysTown is also working with the people of the Tjurabalan region in remote Western Australia, aiming to help improve the sustainability of this community.

Today, we not only celebrate the unprecedented growth and development of the founders' vision, but the continued generosity, love and support of the entire BoysTown community. BoysTown's growth remains firmly connected to our mission *To enable young people, especially those who are marginalised and without voice, to improve their quality of life.* However, we remain dependent on the continued support of our donors and lottery ticket buyers.

The year 1961 also saw the launch of our lottery and donor initiatives. Sixty per cent of our funding still comes from this source. BoysTown, and the many thousands of young people and families who you have helped over the last 50 years, offer their heartfelt thanks.

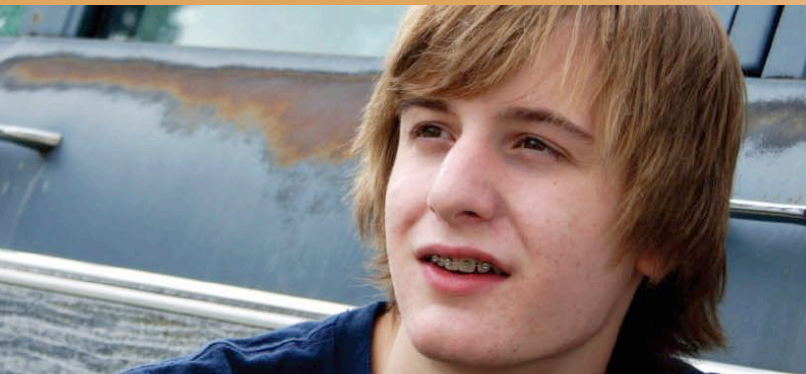
Without your support none of this is possible...



"I am so grateful BoysTown exists because I think my daughter would have continued to be a low achiever when she is capable of so much more. She has returned to my happy confident girl. She has set goals for the future.

Now you can imagine how that feels to a mother. To see a child bloom again, to be happy and confident and want to be the best she can be. Thank you BoysTown and thank you is not a big enough word."

Claire's* Mother



"My father has had violent mood swings all my life. For as long as I can remember he has always hit me. My friend helped me contact Kids Helpline, who helped me get through it. I figured out that it was not my fault and now I feel better about everything in general."

Alex*, Kids Helpline Client



"During my time at Glugor I have gained confidence and strength, which have in turn enabled me to set realistic goals and achieve them."

Beth*, Glugor House Client

* Name changed to protect privacy.

CEO MESSAGE

Our 50th Anniversary year certainly started dramatically. The January floods in Queensland seriously affected our Milton headquarters.

Kids Helpline was immediately relocated to ensure children and young people could continue to speak with our counsellors. We thank our partner Optus for their help, providing offices and telecommunications support. Affected Corporate Services staff were also relocated. We were extremely lucky our other sites in the flood zone, particularly Ipswich and Goodna, were untouched. This meant our services to young people remained largely unaffected.

One of the great stories to come from the flood disaster is the spirit shown by the young people we work with. Young people from our Logan service were untiring in their help during the flood clean up. We also received support from the Army, our staff, friends and people from the wider community. The spirit of generosity was remarkable.

This year is about celebration, recognising the enormous contribution of so many to BoysTown's services. We are proud of all we have achieved over the last 50 years, and recognise that without the support of others much of this would not have been possible.

Through this support, BoysTown has gone from strength-to-strength. We have grown from humble beginnings as a single school for boys, to providing a wide range of services that extend throughout the entire Australian community.

Last year alone, Kids Helpline responded to over 250,000 calls for help; over 1,000 young people were placed in employment; close to 3,000 young people participated in life skills workshops; over 1,500 young people were provided with literacy and numeracy training; 26 homeless families found refuge; and a further 63 women and 148 children were sheltered from domestic violence. These are just some of the people we reached out to during 2010.

With your help, we can look forward to assisting many more children, young people and families over the next 50 years.

J.J. Adams

Tracy Adams



HELPING HEARTS HEAL

Imagine being brave enough to take your children and leave a violent home just before Christmas, to walk out the door with nothing but the clothes on your back - no gifts, no belongings.

This is what so many women who are living in our family violence refuge did and they faced a Christmas with little cheer but with safety.

We were proud when a number of BoysTown's corporate supporters opened their hearts to these families, generously donating gifts in our Wishing Tree Appeal.

The gifts helped heal hearts by giving the women a sense of hope, a pride in themselves, and the knowledge that people who they had never met, and would never meet, cared enough to share.

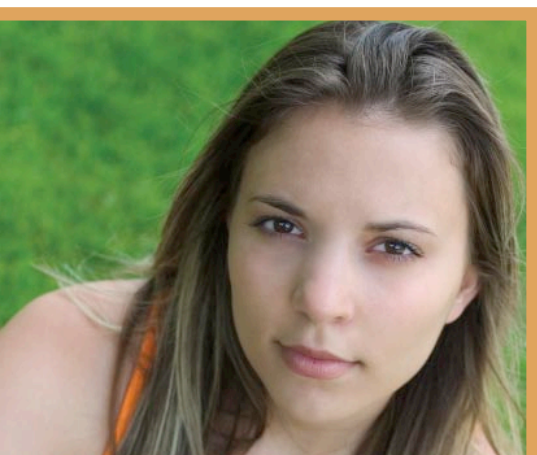
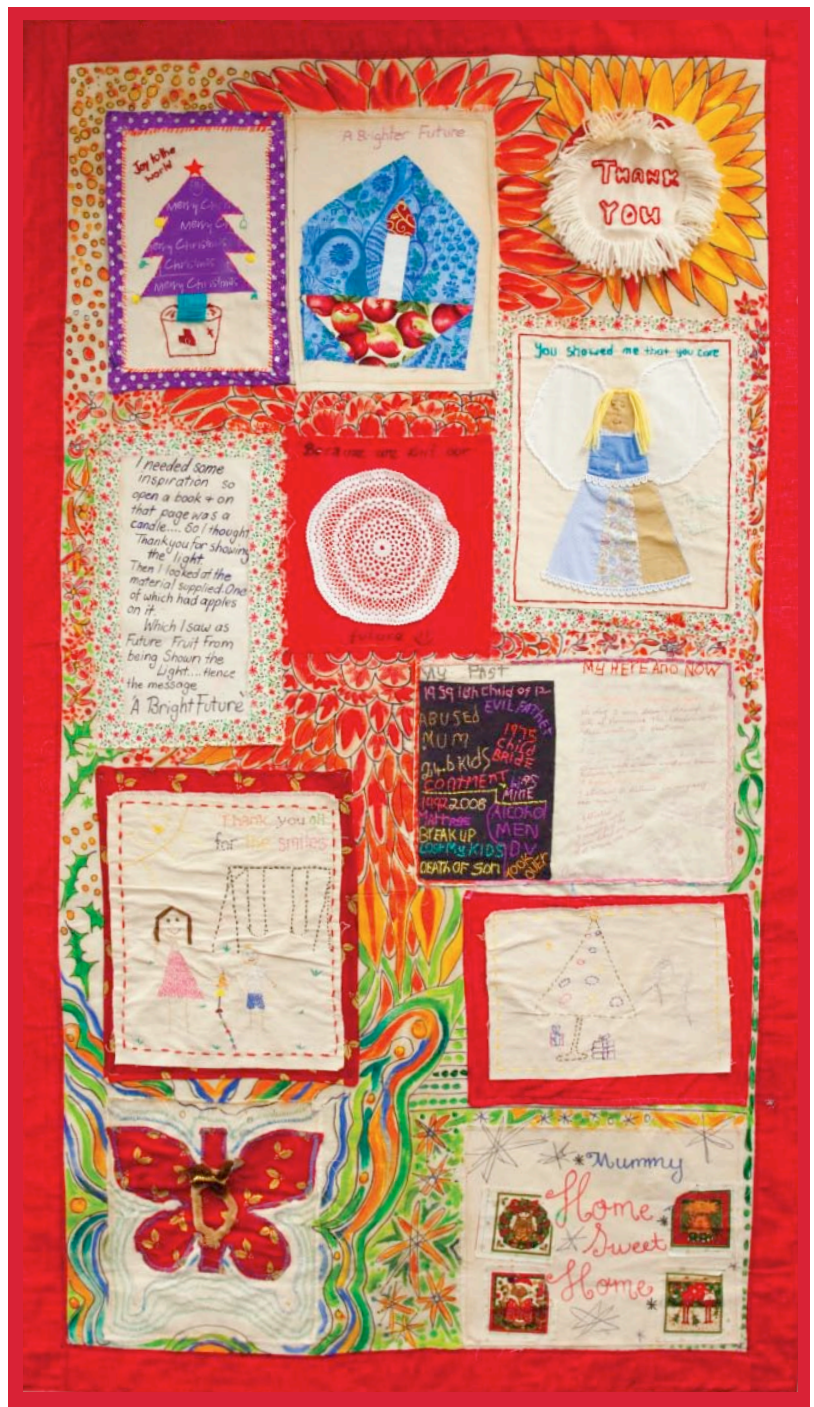
That resulted in an outpouring of gratitude and the creation of a wonderful work of art, a quilt documenting the women's stories to share with those who were so generous.

Our corporate supporters also extended their gifts beyond our domestic violence refuge to include the San Miguel Family Centre and Glugor House. The families supported have also created an artwork of thanks.

The quilt pictured will be shared with Over the Moon, The Shirt Studio, Veolia Transport, ANZ and Corporate Express.

The San Miguel Family Centre artwork will be given to the Sydney Opera House and the Glugor House gift is for Infosys, Salmat and Professional Advantage for their support.

Thank you to these organisations for showing the true spirit of Christmas. And thank you to our donors for extending your generous support throughout the year. Without you we could not continue to provide these vital services.



To see the Glugor House artwork visit: www.boystown.com.au/donations/

"For the past couple of years, I have gone to and from refuges and ended up back in the arms of a man who has held a lot of power over me. Being here has been a life changing experience for me. I have discovered my true strengths, true needs and true happiness"

Mary*, Family Violence Refuge Client



An Easter Reflection from Br Brian

Mention Easter and what does it bring to mind? The Christian minded person will focus on Jesus, his life, suffering, death and resurrection, and in this thought we celebrate forgiveness and renewal. These enduring themes resound throughout our lives and are revealed in many stories.

In the story of Angela's Ashes, we travel through the darkest of days and nights with Angela and her family. However, an extraordinary event occurs in the life of Frankie, when he finally encounters a priest who listens to him with empathy, rather than judging him as inferior because of poverty. He pours out his whole long story of suffering. Through the tears and the release, he also repents of his sins, and experiences nothing short of miraculous cleansing and a new beginning.

In this newly established relationship, the priest says: "God forgives you, and you must forgive yourself. God loves you, and you must love yourself. For only when you love God and yourself can you love all of God's creatures."

This Easter, we thank you for your ability to see beyond the poverty, pain and suffering endured by so many of the people we care for. Thank you for seeing into their hearts and helping us to deliver our mission.

God bless.

Br Brian Cunningham,
Chair of Mission



You can donate to the BoysTown Easter Appeal simply by phoning our Call Centre on **Free Call 1800 552 033**
OR online: www.boystown.com.au **OR** Send the below form to **BoysTown, Reply Paid 312, Brisbane QLD 4001**

Dear Brother Brian, Please accept my Easter Gift of \$_____ to help young people and families

OR I wish to make a regular monthly donation of \$_____ until I advise you otherwise
Please debit my credit card (as detailed below) on the _____ of each month (optional)

DNYL



YOUR DETAILS

Title (Dr Mr Mrs Ms) _____ First Name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Ph () _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Please send me information on Direct Debit

Please debit my MASTERCARD VISA AMEX DINERS

Credit Card Number, Please Print Clearly

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Cardholder's Name _____

Cardholder's Signature _____ / _____
Expiry Date

OR I enclose Cheque Money Order for \$_____ (Please make payable to BoysTown)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!