

5 July 2010

BoysTown kicks off Youth Connections

EVENT: Launch of BoysTown Youth Connections Program and Inaugural State of Origin Touch Footy Challenge

DATE: Tuesday 6 July

TIME: 11.30am

VENUE: Broncos Training Field, Broncos Leagues Club, 98 Fulcher Road, Red Hill

ATTENDEES: Federal Member for Forde Brett Raguse; Senator for Queensland Claire Moore; Australian touch representative Theresa Anderson, and the young people BoysTown supports

PHOTOS: Young people in action during the touch footy challenge, Australian touch representative Theresa Anderson, the Hon. Brett Raguse and Senator Claire Moore.

Federal Member for Forde Brett Raguse will officially launch BoysTown's Youth Connections program tomorrow, 6 July.

BoysTown Chief Executive Officer Tracy Adams said the launch will be celebrated with BoysTown's Inaugural State of Origin Touch Footy Challenge.

"The QBuild Maroons and the Housing NSW Blues have been selected from the young men and women in our programs across Queensland and New South Wales," she said.

"They will play a three match series from 10am and games between young people from our Logan, Redlands and Western Corridor programs will be curtain raisers.

"Quite a few of the players in action will be from the Youth Connections program, which has been operating since January.

"Youth Connections helps young people aged 14 to 18 years who are struggling with school to re-engage with the community, learning and work."

The Youth Connections program offers specialist youth work support and alternative education options – including arts and sports-based activities, mentoring programs, and enterprise learning projects.

"We are very excited to have rolled out this innovative program across South East Brisbane, The Redlands, Logan and Ipswich and have already seen 33 successful outcomes," said Ms Adams.

"This means that young people have either returned to school, found employment or have moved onto another form of education."

Australian Touch Football representative Theresa Anderson will be on hand to offer support and coaching tips on the day.

BoysTown provides help and reassurance to those experiencing life challenges, including: physical and emotional abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, low literacy, long-term unemployment and mental illness.

Media Contact: Regan Flor – 0423 843 786 or Kristy Porter – 0434 077 439