

MEDIA RELEASE
4 December, 2008



Radio listeners share their love for literacy with Youth Off The Streets through the 2008 Dymocks Literacy Foundation 2UE Radio-thon.

With thanks to the 2UE Radio-thon, Youth Off The Streets has today accepted delivery of over 270 brand new books from the Dymocks Literacy Foundation.

Youth Off The Streets was one of 36 charity beneficiaries of the Radio-thon which provided over 2,500 new books to schools, hospitals and local community programs in NSW, ACT and the Northern Territory.

Lou Single, Principal of Youth Off The Streets schools said the \$7,000 worth of new books Youth Off The Streets has today received will add great value to the education of our young people: *“At the heart of everything Youth Off The Streets does, we aim to instil pride in our young people. We are very grateful to 2UE and the Dymocks Literacy Foundation for helping us to do that by providing new fiction and text books for our young people to use throughout the next school year.”*

“Without these books, our teachers would be relying on a limited number of second hand books. Being able to give our students new books will help us engage our students in learning and help us to impart a feeling of pride and ownership in their work,” she said.

Having raised over \$17,000 to purchase new books for charity through the Radio-thon, Don Grover, CEO of the Dymocks Literacy Foundation said: *“Youth Off the Streets is a truly outstanding community program and we're delighted we were able to help them purchase all these books. Reading plays such a vital role in shaping a child's education and future, and if children miss the thrill of reading when they are young, chances are they won't recover.”*

Youth Off The Streets runs four schools that provide educational support for young people who are either disengaged or at risk of becoming disengaged from mainstream education. Through education, Youth Off The Streets aims to empower young people so they can make decisions that will enable a positive change for the future.

The Dymocks Literacy Foundation received over 50 expressions of interest with 36 organisations being chosen as successful recipients. Approximately 2,500 books have been purchased and despatched to those charity beneficiaries. To find out more about the programs the Dymocks Literacy Foundation supports, please visit: www.dymocksliteracy.com.au.

**For any media request, please contact Youth Off The Streets:
Email: lnam@youthoffthestreets.com.au / Ph: 9330 3543 / M: 0412 377 217**

Youth Off The Streets Mission:

Helping disconnected young people to discover greatness within, by engaging, supporting and providing opportunities to encourage and facilitate positive life choices.

About Youth Off The Streets:

Youth Off The Streets is a non-denominational community organisation working for young people who are chronically homeless, drug dependent and recovering from abuse. We support these young people as they work to turn their lives around and overcome immense personal traumas such as neglect and physical, psychological and emotional abuse.

Since opening in 1991, Youth Off The Streets has grown from a single food van delivering meals to young homeless people on the streets of Kings Cross to a major youth specific agency providing a wide range of services offering a full continuum of care.

It is our goal that these young people will leave our care drug free, with a high school education, living skills and a full or part time job in hand. **To donate to Youth Off The Streets, please call: 1800 06 22 88 or visit: www.youthoffthestreets.com.au**

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