

MEDIA RELEASE  
31 March, 2009



## NSW Police Reach Out to Youth from Macquarie Fields during Youth Week 2009

On Wednesday, 1 April, 2009 the NSW Police Force will invite young people from Father Chris Riley's Youth Off The Streets Eden Learning Centre on a tour of the Head Quarters of the Mounted Police, Water Police and the Air Wing.

The tour is to provide young people accessing Father Chris Riley's Youth Off The Streets Eden Learning Centre with the opportunity to learn about a range of different police units and their differing roles and responsibilities. The tour will also introduce the students to a variety of possible future career options that they may not yet have considered.

Ever since the 2005 public disturbance in Macquarie Fields, the NSW Police Local Area Command and Youth Off The Streets services operating in the area have worked together to promote respect and to create bonds between young people and the NSW Police Force.

*"There was a long way to go after the public disturbances of 2005, but the enthusiasm our young people are showing at their Local Area Commander's invitation to spend the day touring Police Headquarters with members of Macquarie Fields Police, just goes to show how well these relationships have been nurtured and how far they have come,"* said Father Chris Riley, CEO and Founder, Youth Off The Streets.

*"At Youth Off The Streets we take every chance to provide our young people with the opportunity to achieve their greatness. We are very grateful to the NSW Police Force, especially the Macquarie Fields Local Area Command, for helping us do this by providing this opportunity for our students to discover potential career possibilities,"* he continued.

Youth Off The Streets Eden Learning Centre provides the opportunity for education to those young people who can no longer access main stream education. It is about helping disconnected young people find their greatness within by providing opportunities that will facilitate and encourage positive life choices. Young people must apply to be accepted into this program, so it takes a great deal of commitment from the young people involved.

## INTERVIEW / PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

**Date:** Wednesday 1 April 2009

**Time:** 12:30 – 1:00pm

**Venue:** Water Police Headquarters  
4 Jubilee Place, BALMAIN

**Who:** Superintendent Pat Paroz, Macquarie Fields Local Area Command, NSW Police; Father Chris Riley, CEO & Founder, Youth Off The Streets, Teachers and students from Eden Learning Centre

**For any media request, please contact Youth Off The Streets:**

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### **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](http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au)**

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