

MEDIA RELEASE
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Introducing the Youth Off The Streets Walgett Streetwalk Team

Set up in October 2008, Walgett Streetwalk is an initiative set up by Youth Off The Streets with the aim of ensuring the safety of the young people of Walgett who are out on the streets at night.

Every Tuesday to Saturday night, the Streetwalk team take to the streets specifically to engage young people; they talk to young people and provide them with opportunities to connect with other service providers that may be able to help them. Staff and volunteers often take young people away from potential harm by taking them to a place of safety and keeping them out of trouble. If a young person is doing something dangerous or if they are at risk of getting into mischief, the Streetwalk team deliver them to their home.

"We are really thrilled with the response we have received to date from the young people out on the streets," said Program Manager, Lynn Field.

"Young people are familiar with us now and we have developed relationships with them to the point where they are even seeking us out for help or a chat, this is a really positive outcome. What we would like to do now is to ensure that adults (parent, friends and carers) in the community know who we are as well," she said.

*"We are hoping to introduce the Streetwalk team to the adults of Walgett so that they can feel more connected with the service and we can ensure that the service works as effectively as it possibly can."*Lynn continued.

Streetwalk is a **free** service to the youth of Walgett and utilises community supporters and local staff to ensure that the needs of the community are being met.

Other attempts at this type of program have not had the success that Streetwalk has due to the professional standards of the Youth off the Streets team. The staff and community supporters have had stringent checks to ensure that the youth off Walgett are in the safest hands possible. Youth Off The Streets are grateful to our volunteers and supporters for their assistance in ensuring the safety of our youth.

Street Walk takes place every: Tuesday night from 8pm – 10pm and every Wednesday to Saturday night from 8pm – 12am.

For further information or to register your support, please contact:
Lynn Field, Manager, Walgett Outreach – Youth Off The Streets
86 Wee Waa St
Walgett
0409719428

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**