

Media Release

For immediate distribution

Fri 24th April 2009

FYA LAUNCHES ITS NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

The Foundation for Young Australians (FYA) is proud to release our new strategy.

This strategy is focused on empowering young Australians to be successful learners and creative, active and valued citizens.

Our number one priority over the next decade is to improve the wellbeing of all young Australians.

How will we achieve this?

First, in the short to medium term, we will focus on improving the learning opportunities provided to young Australians. This will include:

- continuing to develop innovative education programs
- helping to build resilient communities
- undertaking and publishing quality research
- advocating for structural enhancements to our education system.

Second, we will provide young Australians with the tools and resources they need to lead new initiatives and enact positive change within their communities.

Third, we will continue to direct our resources to support those most in need. Over the next five years FYA will lead a \$15m investment in initiatives that will create and support fundamental change - change initiated and led by young Australians.

We will launch a range of initiatives to tackle disadvantage across Australia, such as mentoring and leadership development, targeted grants and the formulation of new policy proposals. This will be undertaken in partnership with other agencies committed to addressing disadvantage.

Taking action and having a lasting impact in this area has never been more important, as the numbers of families and communities under financial distress continue to increase as a result of the economic downturn.

Together these actions will help to build a prosperous and productive Australia where every young Australian can achieve their full potential.

Our strategy and priorities are designed to build on our experience and strengths.

Over the past two decades FYA (coupled with its Education Foundation division) has:

- supported and engaged 1 million young Australians through a range of initiatives and partnerships in every state and territory
- worked with over 10,000 educators
- invested more than \$30 million dollars in the youth sector.

The alliance of Education Foundation with FYA in 2008 consolidated deep expertise and knowledge of the youth and education sectors. Moreover, it created the largest philanthropic organisation focused exclusively on these two sectors.

For Adam Smith, Chief Executive Officer of FYA, harnessing this scale, expertise and experience was critical in the formulation and release of the new strategy:

“FYA’s reach and proven experience in the youth and education sectors has enabled us to frame an inter-generational strategy. Our long-term vision is for an Australia where every young person achieves their full potential and is valued by all.”

“We look forward to working in partnership with young people from across Australia, government agencies, the private sector and other not-for-profit agencies. Together we can realise this vision.”

To download our full strategic plan go to www.fya.org.au

Ends

Media Enquiries

Drew Arthurson - 0402 745 653 // drew.arthurson@fya.org.au



‘Empowering young Australians to be successful learners and creative, active and valued citizens’