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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday 4 March 2011



TEENS IN CARE BRING COOL IDEAS TO *OUT OF THE BOX* FORUM

CREATE Foundation today announced a fantastic opportunity for young people with an out of home care experience to bring their most creative ideas to a special forum titled 'Out of the Box' this weekend.

The *Out of the Box Sexuality and Relationships Forum* will take place in Brisbane and is a creative brainstorming session about the best ways to get sexual health information materials to the children and young people that need it.

Over 34,000 children and young people live in out of home care in Australia today, with over 7,000 living in QLD alone. These numbers increase by 10% per annum.

Without sexuality education resources how can young people get to know their stuff? Unfortunately the information exists but doesn't always get through to where it's most needed. This leads to children in care being disadvantaged and having increased adverse outcomes (when compared with other young people) such as:

- Higher rates of earlier onset of sexual activity;
- Higher rates of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and earlier pregnancy;
- Higher rates of sexual abuse; and
- Less recorded access to sexual health services and information.

Who can participate in the forum? Young people with an out of home care experience, between 12 and 25 years of age will attend CREATE Foundation's special forum and share creative ideas on better ways to promote existing relationships and sexual education material to children and young people in care.

One of the forum's attendees is 20 year old university student, Jessica Ryan. Jessica has a care experience and said that she is excited to be going to the forum. *"I'm really looking forward to the forum and to see who will be there and what great ideas we can come up with. It's a real taboo sort of subject and I'm looking forward to the creative ideas and solutions!"*

The most creative ideas at the forum will win the opportunity to be part of the design process, to turn the imaginative dream into reality!

The "Out of the Box" Sexuality and Relationships Forum takes place 10am-4pm, Saturday 5th March, South Brisbane. For information contact Mike at CREATE on 1800 655 105.

The Out of the Box Sexuality and Relationships Forum is sponsored and funded by Family Planning Queensland.

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"OUT OF THE BOX"



KNOW YOUR STUFF!

"OUT OF THE BOX" WILL LOOK AT WAYS TO BETTER PROMOTE EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS & SEXUAL EDUCATION MATERIAL TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE.

THE MOST CREATIVE IDEAS WILL WIN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF THE DESIGN PROCESS.

FOOD AND DRINKS ARE PROVIDED

SATURDAY 5TH MARCH

10AM - 4PM

SOUTH BRISBANE

*CREATE CAN HELP WITH TRANSPORT COSTS

*AGE 12-25

PLEASE RSVP TO **MIKE** AT **CREATE** BY 25TH FEBRUARY:

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