

MEDIA RELEASE

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Urthboy and Josh Pyke give young people in care a voice New track 'Someone Else's House' launched today

Award-winning music artists Urthboy and Josh Pyke have joined forces with young people in care through not for-profit organisation Life Without Barriers, to create a music track and animated video clip about life as a child in foster or residential care.

Fourteen young people in Life Without Barriers' care shared their experiences, opinions and ideas of foster and residential care with the musicians through a private Facebook group. A number of these young people then went on to meet Urthboy to share their individual stories.

The song launched today called 'Someone Else's House' is available to download on iTunes with all proceeds going to the CREATE Foundation, to fund grants and programs that will help make a difference to the lives of young people in care.

The track highlights the importance of listening to young people and understanding what is important in their lives. The lyrics speak of not being heard, disappointment and feelings of loneliness, such as:

*Someone else's house, someone else's rules,
Someone else's room, someone else's school,
He don't fit in anywhere and knows it,
Hate it when a case worker try to sugar coat it.*

*I don't want to talk when you say that you know what's good for me,
In the end, you're gonna let me down again, 'cause you're not really listening.*

The stories of these young people and their frank discussions with Urthboy also disclosed their strength and resilience.

Life Without Barriers Chief Executive Claire Robbs said "We are very excited to be launching the track; it's gritty, thought-provoking and Urthboy portrayed an honest reflection of the words, stories and experiences young people in care shared. As a leading provider of foster and residential care, we have a strong commitment to listening to young people because they have a fundamental right to be a part of the decisions that have an impact on their lives.

"With over 32,000 children in care in Australia today, it's important to empower children and young people to have a say as it helps to build their self-worth and dignity. It's also instrumental in providing service providers like us with their insights so we can be more responsive to their needs."

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The music track and video clip was produced in partnership with The Precinct Studios and Elefant Traks, and represents the voices and experiences of young people in foster care and residential care with Life Without Barriers.

A behind-the-scenes documentary showcasing the collaborative work has also been launched to capture on screen how the project has allowed young people to turn their life experiences into music. This has been shared through an app <https://apps.facebook.com/someoneelsehouse> alongside the music track and animated video.

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For more information, interviews with a young person involved in the project or CEO Claire Robbs please contact:

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Notes to Editor

About Life Without Barriers

Life Without Barriers is a not-for-profit organisation, providing care and support services across Australia in urban, rural and remote locations, and in New Zealand.

Our community-based programs assist children, young people, adults, families and communities. We provide family support and out-of-home care, disability services, home and community care, and support to refugees and asylum seekers. We also work in the areas of mental health, homelessness and youth justice.

We have a strong commitment to reconciliation and delivering culturally sensitive programs. We respect the rights of people and the importance of relationships. These foundations shape our unique approach to care and underpin the vision and mission of our organisation.

Life Without Barriers has grown from humble beginnings into one of the most significant not-for-profit organisations in Australia, with over 100 support centres providing care services to the community. Our workforce of over 3,500 employees, carers, contractors and volunteers support 5,300 clients with high and complex needs.