



## MEDIA RELEASE

16 December 2015

**Report Embargoed until 12 noon 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015**  
**NTCOSS Launches our Vision for Children and Family Wellbeing**

**Launch details - 11.30am – 12 noon, Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December at The Harbour Room 2-4 Smith St Darwin (beside the Christ Church Cathedral)**

NTCOSS will be launching the 'Vision for a Coordinated Service System to Promote Child and Family Wellbeing' tomorrow. This framework has been developed because we want to see a better outcome for children and families in the NT. We want a better coordinated system and recognition that the wellbeing of children and families are the business of all government departments – not just the Department of Children and Families.

Support for children and families in the NT must encompass much more than a statutory service where children have been identified as 'at risk'. We need to do more to stop children entering the child protection system. The NT needs a strong focus on early intervention and prevention programs.

"The focus on prevention is paramount as it makes sense to prevent children from being harmed. NTCOSS urge the NT Government to increase their investment in all areas of children and family wellbeing. The investment needs to be developed with the well informed NGO sector. Investment in these areas should not duplicate federal programs but rather extend place based programs and address gaps in service delivery." Said Executive Director of NTCOSS, Wendy Morton.

'This framework has been the result of over 18 months of consultation with member agencies across the NT. We are excited to be launching it today and look forward to working with the NT and Federal Government to improve the lives of children and their families right across the NT' said Wendy Morton.

Speakers at the launch will be Olga Havnen, (CEO Danila Dilba), David Pugh, (CEO Anglicare NT) and the Framework will be launched by Colleen Gwynne, Children's Commissioner NT.

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