

MEDIA RELEASE

19 AUGUST 2015

Funding Announced for Pandanus Childbirth Education & Support Program for Young People

Anglicare NT welcomes the Northern Territory Government decision to fund the Pandanus - Childbirth Education and Perinatal Support Program for pregnant young women and young couples.

Anglicare NT Acting CEO Ann Buxton said “We are extremely appreciative of this funding. We have provided pregnancy awareness, child birth education and support to pregnant young women and young couples for over 15 years until funding from the Australian Government was recently cut.

Teenage pregnancy rates are high and becoming a parent at an early age is daunting. Young parents can be very good parents but we need to ensure non-judgemental timely and flexible assistance is available at this critical time.

The announcement by Chief Minister Adam Giles allows Anglicare NT to continue the Pandanus Program for the next 12 months. We look forward to working with stakeholders and funders to identify ongoing funding sources.”

The Pandanus Program offers pregnancy awareness, child birth education courses, practical ante and post natal support and young dads sessions. The Program brings together experienced Midwives and Youth Health staff and has been designed for and is guided by feedback from young people. We work closely with GPs, Clinics, the Hospital and Midwives to ensure pregnant young women antenatal care early, and build the confidence of young parents to access available health and community services.

For more information about the Pandanus Program please visit our website at: anglicare-nt.org.au

FOR COMMENTS OR INTERVIEWS

To arrange interviews with Anglicare NT Acting CEO Ann Buxton regarding the Pandanus Program please contact Anglicare NT Communications.

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