



**'Growing the NT Fairly'**

## **Welcome to the NTCOSS weekly e-bulletin Dec 15 2011**

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If you would like to post an item in this bulletin please email: [admin@ntcoss.org.au](mailto:admin@ntcoss.org.au)

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### **NATIONAL AND TERRITORY WIDE NEWS AND EVENTS**

**NTCOSS CHRISTMAS CLOSURE** *The Darwin and Alice Springs Offices will be closed as of COB on 22 Dec and will re-open on 3 Jan. NTCOSS staff and board wish you all a safe and happy holiday period and thank you for your support throughout 2011.*

**The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is seeking to work in partnership with a service provider to undertake the service provision of Family Group Homes.**

Family Group Homes is a service for children and/or young people who are in the care of the Chief Executive of DCF and have needs that require a different response to foster care. The homes will provide a sensitive placement option for: sibling groups, adolescents in transition to independent living or children who may need long-term care but for whom foster care is not currently an appropriate placement. The majority of children and/or young people will be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders and a preference will be given to agencies able to recruit suitable Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander House Parents. Expression of Interest close at 5.00 pm on Thursday 22 December 2011. For further information or to obtain the core conditions and response schedule including scope of works contact Renae Hawkins on telephone (08) 8999 2983 or email [renae.hawkins@nt.gov.au](mailto:renae.hawkins@nt.gov.au)

**Connecting Up Directory:** Australian Non profit & Charity Organisations directory, have a look at [www.connectingup.org/directory](http://www.connectingup.org/directory) For more information contact Rosalie Day on 1300 731 844 or email: [rd@connectingup.org](mailto:rd@connectingup.org)

**The Australian Government has released the Stronger Futures Bills.** The Bills have been referred to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee:  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac\\_ctte/strong\\_future\\_nt\\_11/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac_ctte/strong_future_nt_11/index.htm) The deadline for submissions is **12 Jan** 2012.

## TOP END NEWS AND EVENTS

**Gifts for people in detention.** Want to give a gift to someone in detention? Darwin Asylum Seeker Support and Advocacy Network (DASSAN) has a Gifts Program which makes it easy for you to give gifts to people in detention in Darwin. Gift ideas might include, books, magazine, games & toys. For further information please contact Fernanda, DASSAN Gifts Coordinator at [dassan2011@gmail.com](mailto:dassan2011@gmail.com)

## CENTRAL AUSTRALIA NEWS AND EVENTS

**Book Launch- Still a Town Like Alice- 16 Dec 5pm** Alice Springs Public Library, Crn Leichhardt and Gregory Terrace Contact Linda on 0427 569 531

