

6th April 2021

The National Council of Single Mothers and their Children Incorporated are proud to give our full endorsement for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

As a community we need to embrace a fairer future, one that is unified, one that will enable us to stand together with pride. We need to find the courage to confront the injustices of the past and this is a step forward.

We are seeking the following.

1. An agreed model for the 'Voice', and that the model to be presented to the citizens in a referendum.
2. The 'Voice' must be passed after a referendum and implemented as soon as practical and undertaken by the Government who established the referendum.
3. The National Voice must ensure previously unheard Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We especially support the inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and single mothers. We remember the women from Alice Springs, from the Tangentyere Women's Family Safety Group who made the journey to Canberra in 2017 and had important information to bring before the Australian Parliament but were not granted an opportunity to speak. Their wisdom was ignored. It is time to correct this wrong and establish an inclusive process.

NCSMC views a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution as a moment of great pride and celebration. A step towards securing a stronger foundation, one that will enable us to respond to the matters of injustice and inequality which is shamefully unacceptable for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sisters and their community.

Warm Regards,

Terese Edwards



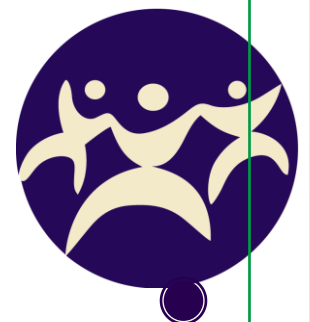
Chief Executive Officer

Barbara Williams



Proud Yorta Yorta Woman

Board of Governance



National Council for Single Mothers and their Children Inc.

Eliminate and respond to violence, hardship and inequality for single mothers and their children.

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