

Your gift today will empower young people and their families to create a positive future.

With your kind support, the Dunlea Centre will be there for more young people and their families.

My choice of \$ _____
 Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

MY PAYMENT OPTIONS

1. Credit Card Payment. Please select your card type:

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Name on Card: _____

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2. Cheque or Money Order Payment, to: 'Dunlea Centre'

MY CONTACT DETAILS

Please complete your details here:

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Surname: _____

Address: _____

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Please email me the Annual School Report and future newsletters.

Email: _____

Boys' Town Engadine 1939



The Dunlea Centre 2014



75 Years Of Creating Positive Futures

Every dollar donated by the public contributes towards operating the programs which help young people and their families



Over 30 young people and their families have directly benefited from your support so far this year.

Thank you!



Who you have helped

So far this year just over 30 young people have entered the program from varying locations from around NSW. The program is voluntary with most young people staying for 6 to 12 months before transitioning into an education or workplace program.



Thank You

2014 marks the year that Australia's Original Boys' Town turns 75. Now known as the Dunlea Centre, our work is still focused on keeping families together and helping them through troubled times.

The Impact

My son entered the Dunlea program at the age of 14 years. He had been in trouble with the police and at school for his conduct, language and destruction of property.

While he was very apologetic he lacked the foresight and self-control to change his behaviour.



He was a very angry boy with a short fuse and little respect for authority figures and his family. He believed he was the centre of the universe.

My husband and I felt a drastic change was needed. We needed him to change and we hoped he wanted to change so we went in search of help. Child psychologists, school counsellors, behaviour programs, medication, groundings, loss of privileges and every other quick fix that we could think of. The real fix was to look at the residential programs available - boarding school, interstate programs and then we found Dunlea.

On the information day my son sat there and we had a frank discussion with him and told him that he had to get an information pack; that the staff would say he had a choice. We returned everything the next day; I wasn't going to miss out on a spot.

Our son packed, tears were shed and we dropped him off. He put on a brave face; he had never stayed away on his own before and had never slept

in a room by himself before due to his anxiety. Many nightly calls of "You can't leave me here", "You don't love me" were made. I lost count how many times we had to talk him into staying, we knew that for him to change we had to ride this through, he had to learn that his choices had led us here and that he was safe at Dunlea. Coming home was a goal we all needed to reach for; it could not just happen because he wanted it.

We watched his confidence grow, he settled in and the calls were now about what happened and what was for dinner.

I still remember about 3 weeks into the program at the Friday pick up seeing a smiling young boy walking up to leave and thinking that he looks like a good kid, then seeing that happy good kid was mine! I knew that this was going to work.

My entire family had to work at it and we as parents had to accept our role in where he had ended up. Family counselling, amazing residential staff and teachers pushed us in the direction we needed to change. We set goals and all worked actively towards them.

Our son stayed at Dunlea just shy of 2 years. He could have left sooner but he decided there were still things he wanted to work on about himself. What a change and what an insightful man we had the pleasure of having in our family.

Now my son's back at school full time - no calls about his conduct, he is co-operative at home. He is a young man that we are proud to call our son. He has a part time job and is getting his driver's license. Had we not done the hard yards at Dunlea I am pretty confident he would have ended up at another institution that only allows weekend visits and parole officers. Thank fully now I believe we have the parenting skills and he has the life skills to allow him to choose to be the man he wants to be. It was time to be a tough parent, not his friend. Now we have the joy of being both.

Keeping families together

Young people and their families need a chance to be able to break destructive cycles so they can live a safe, joyful life filled with opportunity. Your support of the Family Preservation Program does just that!

This unique program provides at risk young people with access to education, accommodation, counselling and behaviour intervention in addition to social and emotional support. The major focus is to positively (re)engage young people with education or employment whilst assisting families to reconnect.

From our very beginnings 75 years ago, individuals have believed in and supported the Family Preservation Program and the many families who have come to the Centre to create change. We would like to thank you and our past donors for this support and the direct impact it is making to the many lives being helped.

Thank You!

Dunlea Centre - Australia's Original Boys' Town
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🌐 www.boystown.net.au

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If for any reason you do not wish to receive our appeal information, please call (02) 8508 3917 to discuss your preferences or tick this box

By providing your email address or mobile phone number you are agreeing that the Dunlea Centre can use it to keep you informed about future activities, events and fundraising.

We respect your privacy. Occasionally the Dunlea Centre may allow other organisations to contact you with information that may be of interest to you. If you do not wish to receive communications from a third party please tick this box