



Free legal help to navigate  
the Royal Commission

## media release

Monday 26 May, 2014

### Independent legal advice available in Alice Springs to help people tell their story to the Royal Commission

**knowmore** legal service is visiting Alice Springs this week to help people understand their options and answer their questions about telling their stories to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

The **knowmore** team will be visiting Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Elliot, Hermannsburg, Yuendumu and Papunya.

The Alice Springs-bound **knowmore** team consists of an experienced lawyer, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural liaison officer and a trauma-informed social worker; and are likely to make return visits.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural liaison officer Chris Lee said "Our role at **knowmore** is to give people information and allow them to make their own decisions about when where and how to tell their story, if they are ready to.

"We are here to help people to get to the Royal Commission and navigate what can be an unfamiliar process," Mr Lee said.

**knowmore** Executive Officer Jenny Hardy said that the **knowmore** team on the Alice roadshow would be visiting to assist people with their inquiries and concerns about their personal circumstances.

"We have helped over 3000 people so far, over the phone and in face to face sessions and community talks which the team have been conducting this week and last week in Alice Springs.

"**knowmore** has a strong commitment to the need for cultural respect and listening to the deeply personal stories of survivors.

"People who have experienced traumatising sexual abuse as a child while under the care of an institution, or those who witnessed something while working at an institution, can have legal concerns or questions about how engaging with the Royal Commission might affect them.

"**knowmore** is independent, and can advise people based on their individual circumstances. We have counsellors/social workers on hand, as well as male

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and female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural liaison officers for people to talk to if they wish," Ms Hardy said.

Anyone in the area who wishes to make an appointment can call 1800 605 762 to arrange it.

**For more information or to arrange media interviews with a local representative, contact media officer Anaya Latter on 0427 944 587.**