



MEDIA RELEASE

1 DECEMBER 2011

The Motors Foundation present a \$350,000 donation to The Salvation Army and the Tasmanian community

The Motors Foundation is pleased to announce the donation of \$350,000 (over 5 yrs) to the innovative **Doorways to Parenting** program, created and run by The Salvation Army in Tasmania.

Doorways to Parenting is a response to the large numbers of families where child protection orders are made on children, particularly when they have either been removed or are at risk of being removed from the family unit. Studies have shown, and the Federal Government has stated, that 85% of cases where the child protection authorities become involved with families, a strong influencing factor is Alcohol or other drugs.

“This exciting new Salvation Army program fits the vision of the Motors Foundation”, says Motors Foundation Chairman Marcus Birrell. “We see this program as being a major support for families and the community in general.”

“This problem in our community is not just the responsibility of the government. If we could harness the power and influence of the corporate world then we can make a difference. Businesses, corporations and foundations really desire to help but they need the expertise of organisations like The Salvation Army who know how to help in the best way.”

The Motors Foundation is an employee funded foundation, where employee donations are matched & multiplied five times by the company owners. 332 Motors staff members from all over the State contribute each fortnight from their salary.

The Salvation Army have commenced the Doorways to Parenting program already in Hobart and plan to expand it into Devonport next year, and then Burnie and Launceston shortly thereafter.

Captain Craig Wood, Public Relations Secretary for The Salvation Army says, “We are extremely grateful to the Motors Foundation, as they have given us the impetus and financial support that we needed. It’s a step further into this project, however to operate Doorways to Parenting and continue to achieve results and tackle the problem successfully, we still need the support of other corporates, private individuals or foundations and all levels of government.”

The program deals initially with families where children have been removed or where there is a high risk of children being removed and placed in some form of out of home care. It then looks at families where children are under orders but still living at home, and families who are at risk of Child Protection becoming involved.

There is no shortage of referrals already to this program – Child Protection, the courts, government, other non government organisations and the Salvos own Doorways centres.

The Salvation Army and the Motors Foundation are acting to support the most vulnerable members of our community - our children. And through the influence of the new facilities, many children will face a brighter future.

ENDS

All media enquiries should be directed to either

Captain Craig Wood

Divisional Public Relations Secretary

The Salvation Army Tasmania Division

craig.wood@aus.salvationarmy.org.au

0402 256 318

Contacts:

Motors Foundation

Terry Bienefeld terryb@motors.com.au

0419 544124