

## **FOR MEDIA**

# **CRAIG EMERSON**

### **Member for Rankin**

#### **YOUTH SERVICES IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY RECEIVE A BOOST**

The Rudd Government will invest \$48 million over the next two years to continue to support young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, through the Reconnect program.

Two local community groups, Multilink at Logan Central and Bridges Reconnect at Hillcrest, will share more than \$800,000 in funding under the Rudd Government's Reconnect Program.

The funding is for counselling services, family mediation and housing for young people in Logan City.

Member for Rankin, Craig Emerson said, "The Homelessness White Paper released last December made supporting these young people a priority. The Rudd Government acknowledges that running these programs from Canberra is not the way to go and has opted instead to invest funding in grass roots organisations that local kids trust and rely on."

Manager of Multilink at Logan Central, Peter Forday said, "We have young people from a variety of backgrounds and ethnicities accessing the reconnect service here. This additional funding will enable us to help more at-risk youth to find solutions for their future that are safe for them."

Allan Cooper, Manager of Bridges Reconnect Browns Plains said, "We have helped more than 47 young people this year, reconnecting them with family, education, employment and training. These kids needed a guiding hand to find their way back after family breakdowns and we appreciate the federal government's continuing support for this very important service."