



DOCUMENTARY ON SINGLE MOTHERS ON NEWSTART PREMIERES IN ADELAIDE

The plight of single mothers on Newstart continues to be heard around the country with the documentary “10 Stories of Single Mothers” premiering in South Australia last week.

The premiere at the Mercury Cinema in Adelaide also included the first airing of “Politicians Unite to Champion Change” – a short documentary about politicians’ reactions to the 10 Stories when they were launched at Parliament House in Canberra in March this year.

Snow Foundation CEO Georgina Byron said 10 Stories was a collaboration between a number of groups united by a shared concern for single parents struggling to create a bright future for their children.

“The documentary intends to raise the profile of the plight of this group of single parents and their families and start the conversation for change,” Ms Byron said.

“It gives voice to 10 courageous women who candidly speak about their reality of living on Newstart and why change is so desperately needed. They share their struggle to put food on the table and keep a roof over their heads highlighting the impacts on their children and why change is needed urgently.”

Terese Edwards, CEO of the National Council for Single Mothers and their Children, said changing from the Single Parenting Payment to Newstart meant these women were up to \$140 a week worse off than they were at the end of 2012.

“It may not seem like a lot of money to many Australians, but the impact on these 10 women and their children is sobering. And there are 64,000 more families out there just like them.”

Ms Edwards said she had been heartened by the support received from across the political spectrum.

“There is clearly an emerging understanding amongst our elected representatives that this is a serious issue and change is needed to prevent these families from living in poverty,” she said.

“Politicians Unite to Champion Change” includes contributions from Andrew Wilkie MP, Cathy McGowan MP, Senator Rachael Siewert, Jenny Macklin MP, Senator Nick Xenaphon, Bob Katter MP, and Clive Palmer MP. It can be downloaded at <https://vimeo.com/90445108> password: 10storieslaunch. More on 10 Stories is at the website: www.10storiesofsinglemothers.org.au

More information on the Snow Foundation is at www.snowfoundation.org.au

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