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St Vincent de Paul Society NSW welcomes PM's recommitment to halve homelessness

The St Vincent de Paul Society NSW welcomes Prime Minister Rudd's recommitment to halve homelessness by 2020.

The recommitment comes following a meeting with the Prime Minister's Council on Homelessness at Kirribilli House last week. St Vincent de Paul Society NSW CEO, Michael Perusco, who attended the meeting, says that whilst the Federal Government's pledge is important, it is crucial that the targets have bi-lateral support.

"The 2020 targets have meant that the Federal Government and all States and Territories, regardless of politics, are working towards reducing homelessness. Since the release of the White Paper, State and Territory Governments have been trialling new approaches to see what works best.

"Now, more than ever, we need to encourage both sides of Federal Government to recommit to making the halve homelessness by 2020 targets a priority. The reality is that when you invest in an issue you usually get results," says Mr Perusco.

St Vincent de Paul Society NSW State President, Ray Reynolds says, "It is a shocking reality that in Australia today, over 105,000 people are experiencing homelessness. There is still a lot of work to be done to address homelessness but the recommitment by the Government is a step in the right direction."

Media interviews available with Michael Perusco.

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