

## National Sorry Day Statement

We acknowledge the historic and continuing effects of government policies on the Stolen Generations, their families, communities and culture.

Today, First Nations children and young people continue to face disadvantage. In 2020-21, 28% of people seeking a homelessness service were Indigenous and more than half were under 25 years old. First Nations people are 2.3 times more likely to experience rental stress than the rest of the population.

As highlighted in [the Uluru Statement from the Heart](#), First Nations children and young people are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system. In our state last year, 40% of the 201 children and young people incarcerated on an average day were Indigenous. These figures are particularly alarming, considering only 6% of 10 to 17 year olds in NSW in the 2016 census identified as Indigenous.

First Nations children and young people are also more likely to be placed in out of home care. At June 2021, 42% of children in out-of-home care in NSW were First Nations children, despite only constituting 5% of the overall population.

If we are to address this historical and current inequality, we must listen to and prioritise First Nations voices. Yfoundations is heartened by the incoming Labor Government's commitment to implement a constitutional Voice to Parliament. Today on National Sorry Day, we urge the government to implement a constitutional Voice to Parliament as a matter of priority.

Read more in [our submission on the Uluru Statement from the Heart here](#).