



QUEENSLAND  
**CHILD  
PROTECTION  
WEEK**

**7 - 13 September 2014**

**ISSUED UNDER EMBARGO | EMBARGO EXPIRES 1PM THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER**

# **RESPECTED ABORIGINAL ELDER WINS PRESTIGIOUS INAUGURAL CHILD PROTECTION AWARD**

An Aboriginal elder renowned for her lifelong dedication to protecting Indigenous children, will tomorrow be named the inaugural winner of a 2014 Queensland Child Protection Week Award.

Aunty Di Moore will be honoured for her “outstanding contribution to addressing the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, children and young people in the child protection system”. This award, new in 2014, was inaugurated to focus attention on the dramatic over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children within this system.

Previous Queensland Child Protection Week Award-winners include Bruce & Denise Morcombe, and Hetty Johnston.

For close to three decades, Aunty Di has been one of the Brisbane region’s most influential voices for child protection, tirelessly dedicating herself to supporting Indigenous children, young people and families.

Her successes in returning children from care to their own families, and ensuring they are kept safe there, has become legendary among colleagues. Peers have described Aunty Di as “a rare resource” and say that her contribution has been so influential that it is impossible to “adequately convey a true sense of her achievement on behalf of her people and her country”. Aunty Di is also renowned as a fearless advocate for Indigenous children, who is not afraid to speak up on their behalf.

“The number of good news stories Aunty Di has been a part of, particularly in an area characterised by trauma and hurt, singles her out as a fitting inaugural winner of this award,” said Queensland Child Protection Week Chair, Lorraine Dupree. “This is particularly so given the worrying statistics around the over representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families in our child protection system.”

Queensland Child Protection Week is run by representatives from 21 of the State’s leading child protection, education, health and welfare agencies, as well as law enforcement and government. The State Government provides nearly \$107,000 to support and promote Queensland Child Protection Week.

More than 100 events will be held during the week, which runs from 7-13 September. For a full calendar of events in your area, visit <http://childprotectionweek.org.au/>

## **Further information**

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