

Media Release
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Attention: Julie Crocker

Maitland “muscles up” to help kids

Organisers of the inaugural **Maitland Muscle Car Display** will donate all proceeds of the Car Display to **Youth Insearch**.

“After seeing Youth Insearch on A Current Affair on the 30th May, we just had to help” said Elizabeth Seigers, organiser of the **Maitland Muscle Car Display**. “We want to raise \$10,000 which would pay for a **Youth Insearch Camp** catering for approximately 50 kids, creating the opportunity for them to get their lives back on track.

Since 1985, 22,000 young people have participated in the Youth Insearch program. **Youth Insearch** conducts weekend Camps for young people between **14-20 years of age from differing backgrounds and lifestyles**. At the Camps, a safe and trusting atmosphere is created where young people feel comfortable to discuss emotional issues relating to family breakdown, drug and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse and grief related issues.

Participants are able to draw on the experiences from each other and establish new goals and directions, taking control of their lives and realising their full potential. Youth Insearch is not affiliated with any religious organisation.

“Overcoming huge burdens such as family breakdown, drug and alcohol abuse, physical or sexual abuse, contemplating suicide and the feelings of isolation, places us in a unique position to be able to talk about these issues with authority” said 18 year old Heath Ducker a Youth Leader in the program.

Heath, now completing a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and a Bachelor of Law, owes his life to Youth Insearch.

“As a kid I lived in extreme poverty and experienced the trauma of sexual abuse. Youth Insearch focuses on the reasons why young people choose a path of self destruction”.

“The Government must look much deeper than the drug problem, we must address why it is happening in the first place” said Heath.

“Young people need to be loved and they need to have discipline. We need to focus more on providing this safe environment for them to grow up in.” said Heath

The **Maitland Muscle Car Display** will be held on the 17th November 2001 at Maitland City Centre.

To interview Elizabeth Seigers, organiser of the Maitland Muscle Car Display, Heath Ducker or the Founder of Youth Insearch Ron Barr OAM, please contact Paul Simpson on 02 9659 6122 or 0410 66 5961