

MEDIA RELEASE

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Budget with Heart: Marist180 Calls for Bold Investment in Children, Young People, Families and Community

As the NSW Treasurer prepares to hand down the 2025–26 State Budget today, Marist 180 is urging the government to deliver a budget that reflects the values of fairness, dignity, and opportunity—particularly for children, young people, and families.

Peter Monaghan, CEO of Marist 180, said the upcoming budget is a critical opportunity to invest in the future of New South Wales.

“Budgets are more than numbers—they are a reflection of our values and priorities,” Mr Monaghan said. “This year, we are calling on the NSW Government to make a powerful choice: to invest in the rights, strengths, and futures of children, young people, and families.”

Marist 180 joins with the broader social services sector in advocating for targeted investment in early intervention, youth housing, domestic and family violence support, and Aboriginal-led solutions. The organisation is backing sector-wide calls for:

- **Tripling investment in early intervention and family preservation services**
- **\$2.6 billion per year for the next 10 years to grow social housing by 5,000 properties per year**
- **A 30% uplift in Specialist Homelessness Services funding**
- **Expansion of integrated primary care models in NSW PHN’s \$1.975 million/year (MHCC)**
- **Investment in the mental wellbeing of children, young people and families**
- **Increased investment in Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations (ACCOs)**
- **Sustainable funding for the youth and community services workforce**

Mr Monaghan emphasised that young people in particular need support before they reach crisis point.

“Every young person has potential. But too often, that potential is constrained by systems that are under-resourced and reactive,” he said. “We know what works—early

support, safe housing, culturally responsive services—and we know that investing in these areas delivers better outcomes for everyone.”


Marist 180 is calling on the NSW Government to deliver a budget that not only addresses urgent needs but also lays the foundation for long-term social and economic resilience.

“NSW has the opportunity to lead the nation in building a fairer, more inclusive future,” Mr Monaghan said. “A budget that invests in children, young people, and families is a budget that invests in all of us.”

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Interview available / Opinion Editorial