



YWCA  
CANBERRA

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **MURAL PROJECT REINVIGORATES SENSE OF PRIDE & COMMUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN LANYON**

**1 September 2016:** The Lanyon Valley community will come together tomorrow for an open day at YWCA Canberra's Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre. The focus of celebrations will be to highlight the completion of a youth-led Mural Project, a collaborative initiative involving young people and community organisations in the Tuggeranong region.

More than 15 local young people helped to remove graffiti and litter from areas around the centre and adjacent skate park, and created a series of spray painted murals, under the guidance of street artist Geoff Filmer from Graffik Paint.

YWCA Canberra Executive Director Frances Crimmins says that the Mural Project has provided a creative outlet for young people in the community.

"The project has generated a renewed sense of pride and ownership of the space and the adjacent skate park among the young people who attend the Youth and Community Centre. There have been no incidents of graffiti or vandalism at the Centre since the project concluded, which is a wonderful outcome,"

"It is crucial that we continue to find ways to engage our young people through positive opportunities, and empower them through a sense of community," she said.

A longstanding part of the Lanyon Valley region, the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre provides a number of opportunities for the community to engage in social, recreational and educational activities in a safe and welcoming environment.

YWCA Canberra would like to thank Gordon Neighbourhood Watch, Graffik Paint, Parks and Territory Services and ACT Policing for their support on the project.

Details of the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre Open Day are as follows:

**Date:** Friday 2 September

**Time:** 3:00pm – 6:00pm

**Location:** Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre, Sidney Nolan Street, Conder

Activities will include a BBQ, drumming performances, open access to the youth centre, and information on groups and programs available at the Centre.

Media are invited to attend.

- ENDS -

**Katherine Higgins, Manager, Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre is available for interview.**

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**About YWCA Canberra:** YWCA Canberra is a feminist, secular, not-for-profit community organisation that has been providing community services and representing women's issues in the Canberra community since its establishment in 1929. YWCA Canberra employs more than 300 staff across the ACT, and delivers 30 quality programs in children's services, community development, housing, youth services, women's leadership, advocacy, and training. Represented in 122 countries, the YWCA has a global reach of 25 million women and girls. As part of this international movement, YWCA Canberra works for a world where reconciliation, justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and care for the environment are promoted and sustained through women's leadership. For more information visit:

[www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

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