



THE HON BRENDAN O'CONNOR
MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS
THE HON KATE ELLIS
MEMBER FOR ADELAIDE

MEDIA RELEASE

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FUNDING SUPPORTS YOUNG AFRICAN MIGRANTS

Minister for Home Affairs Brendan O'Connor and Member for Adelaide Kate Ellis today announced funding of \$324,418 for **Baptist Care (SA) Inc** to help young African migrants to adapt to life in Australia.

"The *Imagine the Future* intervention project will work with newly arrived youth and their families from sub-Saharan Africa to curb youth crime," Mr O'Connor said.

"This project will take those children aged 10 to 15 who are showing anti-social behaviour and give them peer support and mentoring.

"It will also provide information sessions with the South Australian Police to increase awareness of Australian laws, and encourage a positive relationship with police.

"Teenagers and their families who come to Australia as humanitarian entrants have often left countries where they suffered from violence and discrimination.

"Projects like this can help young people adjust to life in Australia and help them make positive life choices.

Ms Ellis said: "Through this program and the support of the community, newly arrived young people and their families can assist in their transition to becoming participating members of the Australian community and create positive lives for themselves.

"This project will provide young people who settle in Adelaide with additional services, support and mentoring to help them develop important life, social and conflict management skills."

The grant is one of a number to be made under the Proceeds of Crime Act (2002) which enables money from assets confiscated under Commonwealth law to be returned to the community. More than \$6 million of funding under the Proceeds of Crime Act (2002) will be distributed to community groups for crime prevention and Indigenous prisoner projects.

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