



**Social Futures**  
Northern Rivers Social Development Council

16 Keen Street, Lismore NSW 2480  
PO Box 5419, East Lismore NSW 2480  
02 6620 1888  
info@socialfutures.org.au  
socialfutures.org.au

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## **MEDIA RELEASE: 96 Lismore Businesses Help to Air Our Dirty Laundry**

This year 96 businesses in Lismore's CBD have signed up to display a t-shirt as part of The Dirty Laundry Day Project.

Now in its seventh year, the painted T-Shirts with messages of hope, resilience and courage from people who have experienced domestic or family violence, are becoming a familiar sight on the streets of Lismore.

Each year workshops are run with women who have experienced domestic and family violence, where they are encouraged to use their creative side to express their feelings and voice their stories about their experiences with violence.

The workshops also allow domestic violence victims to come together with others sharing the same experience, reducing isolation, silencing and separation. The workshops also link women to services which can provide support.

The T-Shirts which are created during the workshop, with powerful messages painted on them, will be displayed in the 96 participating local shopfronts, raising awareness and changing family violence from a hidden to a whole of community issue.

"We are thrilled to have had such a wonderful response from local businesses, all of whom were really eager to support the project and to lend their voices also to a strong message, that violence is not tolerated in our community" says Dirty Laundry Day Project Coordinator, Niki Gill

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, at 4pm, an event will take place on the corner of Carrington and Magellan Streets which will be emceed by comedian Mandy Nolan. The event which will feature speakers and live music by Riley Fitzalan will culminate with a walking tour of the exhibition around the CBD.

There will be a competition for participants who could win 2 x double passes the Lismore Cinema, kindly donated by Birch Carrol and Coyle.

All are welcome to attend.

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Amanda Shoebridge, Marketing and Communications Officer, Social Futures  
0428 242 675.**

