

Media release



31 March, 2020

PCYC NSW celebrates 83 years of empowering young people

On 1 April, 2020 PCYC NSW celebrates 83 years of working with Police, staff, volunteers, supporters, alumni and communities across New South Wales to empower young people.

For the first time in its history, PCYC NSW has temporarily suspended services at all of its 64 clubs due to health advice released by the Australian and NSW Governments' to stop the spread of COVID-19.

PCYC NSW CEO, Dominic Teakle, said the current environment is very challenging, but the organisation has survived through wars and economic downturns in the past and he is adamant it will also survive conditions created by the coronavirus pandemic.

"We are devastated to have closed our clubs across the state, but we are doing it to keep our staff, our members and our communities safe," he said.

"In our 83-year history we have survived through the aftermath of the depression, wars, recessions and the Global Financial Crisis (GFC), and we will survive this challenge as well.

"We have to survive because the work we do in partnership with the NSW Police Force is too important. We will rebound from this challenge stronger than ever, because we will be needed more than ever."

Police programs, including those under NSW Police Commissioner Mick Fuller's RISEUP strategy, have also been temporarily suspended.

PCYC NSW was established in 1937 by Police Commissioner William John MacKay. It was a partnership forged with the community via Rotary to provide young people with a safe and positive alternative to the streets. Today, PCYC NSW operates more than 64 clubs and centres throughout the state, and has more than 116,000 members. It is one of the largest youth organisations in Australia.

We stand ready to mobilise and repurpose our club network to assist in the recovery phase or as we are needed.

Our clubs will be acknowledging this milestone by decorating their front entry with an 83rd anniversary poster to celebrate with the local community and reinforce our resilience.

About PCYC NSW

With 64 Clubs throughout the state and more than 116,000 members, Police Citizens Youth Clubs NSW (PCYC NSW) is Australia's pre-eminent youth organisation working with Police and community to empower young people to reach their potential.

For more visit www.pycnsw.org.au