



# ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

JOINING THE STRUGGLE FOR RECOGNITION

(for Vinnies Secondary School Conferences  
and Social Justice Groups)



We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the Traditional Custodians of this land, with deep respect. May the Elders, past and present, be blessed and honoured. May we join together and build a future based on compassion, justice, hope, faith and reconciliation.



## THE SOCIETY SUPPORTS THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

The Society of St Vincent de Paul NSW accepts the Uluru Statement from the Heart's invitation and is proud to support its calls for National Voice to Parliament.

### WHY THE SOCIETY SUPPORTS THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

- The Society supports the Uluru Statement and a Voice to Parliament as part of our mission to shape a more just and compassionate society.
- By supporting the Uluru Statement we are supporting First Nations peoples who have suffered greatly as a result of colonisation.
- Colonisation resulted in violence, dispossession, and poverty. It led to discrimination, exclusion and trauma. These devastating effects continue to be experienced by First Nations peoples today.
- First Nations people comprise around one-fifth of the people that The Society works with and assists. By supporting the Uluru Statement and a Voice, we will reduce poverty and injustice experienced by First Nations people.
- Establishing a Voice to Parliament will give First Nations peoples a direct say over laws and policies that impact them. This will produce better outcomes in areas like health, education and employment.
- A First Nations Voice to Parliament is consistent with the Society's vision to encourage people to take control of their own destiny.
- The Catholic Church in Australia officially endorsed the Uluru Statement in July 2022.
- The Society has accepted the invitation of First Nations leaders and delegates to walk alongside First Nations people for a better future.



**We invite you to join us in a movement of the Australian people, based on our values of compassion, understanding and respect.**

## ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

Provide answers below to ensure you've captured key information about the social justice campaign, the Uluru Statement From the Heart.

Use these online resources to help you:

- Uluru Statement From the Heart — [ulurustatement.org](http://ulurustatement.org)
- From the Heart campaign — [fromtheheart.com.au/about/our-people](http://fromtheheart.com.au/about/our-people)



### 1. What is the Uluru Statement from the Heart?

### 2. What are the three elements of the Uluru Statement's agenda? What does each element mean?

1.

2.

3.





3. What is Makarrata and how does it apply to the Uluru Statement?

4. How does the Australian Constitution exclude First Nations people?

5. What is systemic racism and how do we combat it?



6. What question will the referendum present to the Australian people to vote upon?



7. You must be \_\_\_\_\_ years old to vote in the referendum

8. You can be any age to participate in the Uluru Statement From the Heart campaign:      True      False

9. How does the Uluru Statement From the Heart align with Vinnies values?

10. How does the Uluru Statement From the Heart align with your own values?

## VINNIES YOUTH – CALL TO ACTION

By now, you'll understand that we at Vinnies fully accept the Uluru Statement from the Heart's invitation and are proud to support its calls for a National First Nations Voice to Parliament.

What actions can you take in your Vinnies Youth Conference or school social justice group to support the Uluru Statement from the Heart?

### VINNIES YOUTH PLEDGE



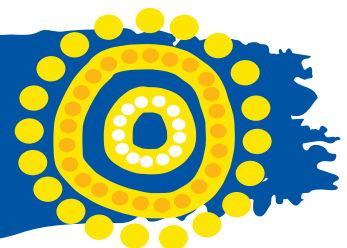
**Keen to act?** In your social justice group or Vinnies Conference, make a pledge of what you plan to do in support of the Uluru Statement From the Heart. Remember, you can go directly to the From the Heart campaign and follow the suggested actions.

I/We \_\_\_\_\_, pledge to take the below-mentioned action/s to show our support for First Nations People's call to Parliament for constitutional reform, so we can take a step towards a society that is built on compassion, understanding, and respect.

Our action/s are:

Signed:

Our Social Justice team would love to hear from you! Share your actions with us by emailing [youth.NSW@vinnies.org.au](mailto:youth.NSW@vinnies.org.au) or tag us in your socials posts: @vinniesyouthsw





## VINNIES YOUTH MEMBERS IN SUPPORT OF THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

In November, 2022, our Youth Members across NSW met during our first state-wide Vinnies NSW Youth Convention. At this time, they heard directly from our keynote speaker Bridget Cama. Bridget is a Wiradjuri First Nations and Pasikika Fijian woman. She is also the Uluru Youth Dialogue Co-Chair, and works to provide a national platform for First Nations youth voices to be heard in the Uluru movement and in First Nations affairs more broadly.

Bridget addressed our Vinnies Youth Members by detailing the history of the Uluru Statement and the functions of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament and Makarrata.

**“The Statement is a gift to the Australian people, to walk alongside First Nations people... [to] reimagine what this nation, that we all call home, could look like.”  
(Bridget Cama)**

In response, our Vinnies Social Justice Network facilitated a workshop which had our Youth Members identify ways to show their support for the Uluru Statement From the Heart campaign/ Below is a few of their ideas. Maybe your Youth Conference or Social Justice group could borrow a few and put them into action! We asked Vinnies Youth Members, What can you do to show your support for the Uluru Statement and walk together with First Nations people? This is what they said:

### DIRECT SUPPORT OF THE ULURU STATEMENT CAMPAIGN

- Sign the Uluru Statement Canvas
- Buy Uluru Statement merchandise
- Follow The Uluru Youth Network
- Educate yourself (read the Uluru Statement, engage with the learning resources)
- Hold events and have people speak about the Uluru Statement
- Vote (if over 18years of age)
- Vote YES for the establishment of a First Nations Voice to be enshrined in the Constitution

### RECOGNITION

- Acknowledge Country
- Read sections of Uluru Statement at school assemblies or meetings
- Support First Nations businesses
- Learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and connection to Country
- Hear First Nation’s people’s voices (social media)

# VINNIES YOUTH MEMBERS IN SUPPORT OF THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

## ADVOCACY

- Support the Uluru Statement Campaign directly
- Spread awareness through university (or school) events
- Write letters to political representatives
- Write to your Local MP
- Advocate to our networks and social groups
- Sign petitions
- Post on social media platforms
- Micro-volunteering, e.g., making contributions at home or in small tangible ways

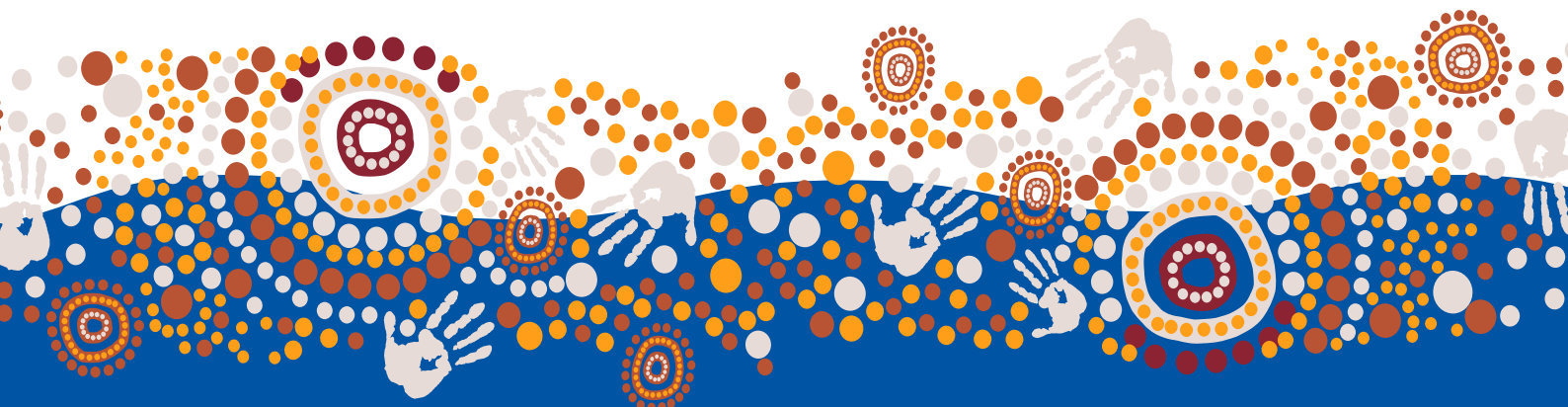
## OPEN DIALOGUE

- Connect to local Land Council
- Engage in conversations
- Ask First Nations people what they would like, listen, take note
- Start conversations to raise awareness and educate others
- Listen to what others have to say
- Meet people where they are
- Educate ourselves – listen and learn
- Encourage conversations in school, university, and workplaces
- Have a talk on the Uluru Statement in our conferences and other youth groups
- Have conversations with family, friends and colleagues
- Develop skills and confidence to have conversations
- Challenge perceptions





# NOTES



**Vinnies**  
good works

SOCIAL JUSTICE  
**NETWORK**



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