

## MEDIA RELEASE

Under Embargo (25 October 2018)

### PCYC Queensland Wins Prestigious International Road Safety Award

PCYC Queensland is excited to be amongst the winners of the prestigious Prince Michael International Road Safety Award (PMIRSA) for our learner mentor driver mentor program PCYC Braking the Cycle.

PCYC Queensland was named a winner of the prestigious Prince Michael Award, that annually recognises organisations worldwide for their outstanding contribution to improving road safety.

The PMIRSA judges awarded PCYC Braking the Cycle not only for improving the safety record of disadvantaged young people, but also for addressing the important area of social inclusion, acknowledging the program as a valuable and well-resourced initiative.

PCYC Queensland Chief Executive Officer Phil Schultz is incredibly proud of the impact PCYC Braking the Cycle has in local communities and was honoured to accept the award.

"The program not only empowers disadvantaged young people to get their licence, it also increases a young person's employment and education opportunities, encourages positive community connection and improves road safety outcomes for young drivers," said Mr Schultz.

"Secondary to this the program addresses the impact of poorly educated or unlicensed drivers on the roads and the devastating impact this can have on a community," he said.

PCYC Braking the Cycle is supported by the Motor Accident Insurance Commission (MAIC), the Queensland Government's compulsory third party vehicle insurance fund. Insurance Commissioner Neil Singleton said MAIC is proud to provide \$5.1 million of funding over three years to support 14 PCYC Queensland clubs to operate the program.

"Evaluation confirmed PCYC Braking the Cycle is closely aligned with best practice for learner mentor driver programs," said Mr Singleton.

"So funding of this type, which can improve driving outcomes, and reduce road trauma, is of significant benefit to motorists' welfare and their families, friends and the broader community," he said.

PCYC Braking the Cycle is an effective learner driver mentor program that provides a safe vehicle, and pairs learner drivers with volunteer mentors who help them undertake 100 hours

of supervised on-road driving experience. Currently offered at 30 PCYC Queensland clubs across the state, the program has helped over 750 young people obtain their driver's licence through a network of over 350 mentor drivers, 51 vehicles and the support of 55 government, community and corporate partners.

His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent will present all award winners at the annual presentation ceremony on Tuesday 11 December at The Savoy Hotel in London.

### **About PCYC**

Police-Citizens Youth Clubs (PCYC) Queensland is a trusted and respected charitable not for profit supporting more than 73,000 members across 54 clubs from Cape York to the Gold Coast.

Since 1948, our staff and volunteers have been working in partnership with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) to meet local community and youth needs. PCYC Queensland works to build safer, healthier communities through youth development and delivers a broad range of youth-focused activities and programs, outside school hours care, gym and fitness, and more for everyone.

Importantly, PCYCs are a vital and key point of engagement for young people who are at risk, disadvantaged or disengaged. Our clubs and programs provide opportunities for young people to have positive experiences, get involved in a wide range of activities, and learn from great mentors and community leaders including our serving police officers.

Almost 90% of our work is funded through your kind donations and our fee-for-services for the community. The remaining is from government funding and significant in-kind support from our founding partners. Any surplus revenue goes straight back into our programs and facilities, as well as the communities we serve — ensuring we deliver on our vision, now and in the future.

### **For further information, please contact:**

Angela Watts  
PCYC Queensland  
State Manager Braking the Cycle  
P: +61 7 3909 3514  
E: [angela.watts@pcyc.org.au](mailto:angela.watts@pcyc.org.au)

Nicola Gunn  
PCYC Queensland  
Media and Corporate Communication Manager  
P: +61 7 3909 9557  
E: [nicola.gunn@pcyc.org.au](mailto:nicola.gunn@pcyc.org.au)