

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**From Classroom to Film Set:
WA High-Schoolers Tackle Mental Health Issues for Interactive Film**

In tackling one of the most important issues facing youth in Western Australia, *Your Call* has launched a new competition giving high school students the opportunity to showcase their film-making skills around the various mental health issues affecting young people.

Recent statistics confirm that one in five teenagers aged 15-17 have experienced a level of psychological distress that was likely to lead to a serious mental illness,¹ whilst a recent report by the Australian Government revealed stigma and poor awareness of mental health issues also played a large factor for teenagers not seeking help.²

To date, *Your Call* has produced three successful interactive films which tackle the issues of violence, alcohol abuse and crime amongst adolescents and young adults. The fourth film, will be the most anticipated as Year 10-12 students get involved in the creative process by submitting an innovative storyline around the topic of youth mental health and then vote for their favourite concept.

Filmed from a first person perspective, interactive films allow viewers to decide the destiny of the main character, by offering a series of choices which ultimately lead to different fates. The format has been proven successful with similar crime prevention campaigns **#emilywasted** and **Shirtfront** going viral both locally and nationally.

The winning student or group from the *Your Call* competition will be awarded \$1000 plus \$2000 towards their schools Media, English or Drama program. The students will also get the opportunity to work directly as an Executive Producer with the professionals at ECU WA Screen Academy.

Registrations are now open to submit their storyline ideas and for their chance to be *Your Call's* next big interactive film.

Register at <http://yourcall.rocks/competitions/register-now/> to download information pack
Registrations close May 10th, 2016
Applications need to be submitted before 4pm, 6th June 2016.

References

¹ Youth Survey Mental Health Report, 2015, Mission Australia.

² The mental health of children and adolescents, Department of Health, Australian Government.

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For further information on Your Call and their films please contact:

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Notes to editors

- **Your Call is a sub-brand of the Constable Care Child Safety Foundation**
- **Constable Care Child Safety Foundation is a registered harm prevention charity that delivers award winning safety education programs free of charge to school students throughout Western Australia.**
- **The Foundation continues to support the growing needs of children, youth and families by developing ongoing programs and products relevant to the challenges faced by our youth to ensure a safer, brighter future for those living in Western Australia.**
- **Constable Care Child Safety Foundation celebrated 25 years of service in 2014. It was established in 1989 by Sergeant Ross Pengilly and launched by WA Police.**
- **Free services provided include; Constable Care Pre-school to Year 6 educational puppet and actor shows, Theatrical Response Group interactive performances and intensive workshops for Years 7 to 12 and Comfort Packs for children in distress or at-risk youth.**
- **The Constable Care Child Safety Foundation provides best practice, Lost Child Points – a meeting point service and a safe refuge for children, should they become separated from their parents or guardians at major events in WA.**
- **Constable Care Child Safety Foundation also hosts the Constable Care Child Safety Awards, an independent event created to celebrate the endeavours of individuals, communities, corporate organisations, emergency services professionals, local government or state government agencies and education programs, which protect children and young people from harm, and promote a safer Western Australia for our youngsters.**