

Courage to Care is gearing up for 2020

COURAGE TO CARE NSW
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We at Courage to Care NSW are very proud of the generous support of our volunteers, friends and community to help us continue to prevent anti-Semitism, racism and discrimination across Australia. In 2019 we reached over 5,000 students across NSW, ACT and QLD. Our national partners in Melbourne (Courage to Care VIC) and Perth (Courage to Care WA) are making a great impact in their states as well. We are gearing up for the year 2020 with plans to reach more and more student, an objective which could not come at a better moment in time.

Anti-Semitism is on the rise. That is a fact we are going to have to face with great resolve and inner strength. At the same time, it is very heartening to read the personal responses from children who have attended a Courage to Care program (many of whom have never met a Jew before in their life) and are inspired to stand up for others experiencing bullying and hate.

Here is a letter written to Holocaust survivor Ana Deleon. Ana and her husband Gaby graciously volunteer their time to share their stories with students attending Courage to Care programs. In this letter a Year 10 student wrote the following:

"Dear Ana, it was a privilege to hear your life story and all the sacrifices you made to survive. I am truly blessed to have met such a strong and brave woman. I want you to know that you inspired me to speak up and be a leader for the future generations. I want to carry out your inspiration and allow your incredible journey to be heard and remembered."



Names from left to right - Holocaust Survivor Tom Fleming and C2C Volunteer Annie Friedlander at a recent program at a local high school in Sydney

We are confident that the message to stand up against anti-Semitism is getting through. Moree Secondary College student Tayla Simpson, who attended the Courage to Care Exhibition in Moree this November, published an article-length review in the local press detailing her experience of the program. The main message she and others walk away with is that even in the toughest of times, decent people have the power to go out of their comfort zone and stand up for what is right. Even a small act of caring can have an extraordinary impact on the lives of those who are suffering.

For the year of 2020, Courage to Care hopes to reach another 5,000+ students across NSW, ACT and QLD. There is much work to be done and we are always looking for more volunteers to bring our programs to Australian children and young people, but most importantly, we must not lose hope and continue to share the positive stories of those inspired and empowered to stand up for justice and harmony.



Names from left to right - Holocaust Survivors Ana & Gaby Deleon with C2C volunteers at the 2019 Moree Exhibition



Names from left to right - Past C2C Chair Juliet Seifert, Tom & Caroline Fleming, Lily Wolf and C2C volunteers at the 2019 Gold Coast exhibition