

# Planned Giving

The Alannah  
and Madeline  
Foundation



Keeping children safe from violence

## Our history

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation is a national charity protecting children from violence and its devastating impact.

The Foundation was set up in memory of Alannah and Madeline Mikac, aged 6 and 3, who were tragically killed with their mother and 32 others at Port Arthur, Tasmania on 28 April 1996.

We care for children who have experienced or witnessed serious violence. We also run programs that prevent violence and advocate for children's safety and wellbeing. Our vision is that every child will live in a safe and supportive environment.

## Contact us

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Thank you for considering leaving a gift to the Foundation in your Will.

Your bequest will help protect children from violence.

Your support will continue to make a positive impact after you are gone.

## Why choose The Alannah and Madeline Foundation?

- Every year more than 30,000 children in Australia are abused or neglected.
- Two thirds of children abused or neglected in Australia are under 10 years of age.
- The number of children in out-of-home care has increased by 51.5 per cent since 2005.
- 2009 study indicated cyberbullying affects at least one in 10 students in Australia.
- 20 per cent of all children online will be targeted by an online predator or paedophile each year. Most don't tell for fear of losing access to their phone or internet.

## How your bequest will make a difference

With a safe financial future, the Foundation is better able to plan our programs and service to both care for those who have been traumatised by violence or to prevent negative situations in schools and online.

- \$2,200 can fund the Better Buddies Framework into a primary school to help create a friendly and caring school environment where bullying is reduced.
- \$3,500 will supply a school the eSmart cyber safety framework
- \$4,000 will put a child through the Children Ahead Program for a year
- \$5,000 will fund one year's worth of psychotherapy, music, pet or art therapy sessions at a domestic violence refuge for a group of children in need.
- \$12,000 funds 100 Buddy Bags containing essential items for a child in emergency accommodation.



**"It's inspiring to see how great an impact The Alannah and Madeline Foundation has had on so many lives since it was established in 1997. It would make my daughters smile to know they are being remembered in such a helpful and beautiful way."**

**Walter Mikac, Patron of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation and Alannah and Madeline's father.**

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## Our programs

Now in its 14<sup>th</sup> year, The Alannah and Madeline Foundation runs innovative programs and initiatives, including:

**Children Ahead** – an intensive support program helping children to recover from serious violence and trauma. We currently assist 50 children and their families. Our aim for 2012 is to be able to support more than 100 children and their families.

**Buddy Bags** – provides essential items to thousands of children in emergency accommodation nationwide. In 2011 we delivered 9,000 Buddy Bags to 243 domestic violence refuges nationally.

**Refuge Therapeutic Support Program** – provides annual grants of \$5,000 for a range of group therapeutic programs for children in refuges who have experienced serious violence.

**Children365** – an initiative that encourages the community to celebrate children every day of the year. The concept for Children365 was developed after the tragic death of Darcey Freeman, aged 4, in January 2009.

**National Centre Against Bullying (NCAB)** – a peak body working to advise and inform the Australian community on the issue of childhood bullying and the creation of safe schools and communities, including the issue of cybersafety.

**Better Buddies Framework** – in more than 800 schools nationally, it helps students entering their first year of primary school to feel safe, valued and connected to the school community.

**eSmart** – a world-leading system to help Australian schools manage cybersafety, and deal with bullying and cyberbullying. Currently being rolled out in schools throughout Victoria and Queensland. Our aim is that every school in Australia will be an eSmart school.

Should you wish to learn more about any of our programs and the work we do, you can find more information on our website [www.amf.org.au](http://www.amf.org.au)

## Why do I need a Will?

A Will is a legal document that ensures that your wishes are carried out when you pass away, particularly in terms of how you wish to distribute your assets and possessions. Without a Will, your relatives may disagree about what to do with your estate or, if you don't have relatives, the government may decide.

Making a bequest to a charity is a wonderful way to truly make a difference and leave a lasting legacy.

A bequest might be a specific amount of money or assets, a percentage of those assets, or the residual (what's left over after heirs and other obligations are paid) from an estate.

If you don't have a Will already, you can engage a Solicitor write one for you. Getting professional advice is the best way to make sure the correct wording is used to avoid potential mistakes and misunderstandings regarding your wishes.

If you already have a Will you can change it at any time. It is advised that you revise your Will every five years and whenever there is a major change within your extended family. Your wishes or circumstances may change over the years, so make sure your Will reflects this.

## Keep in mind ...

Here is a list of the simple things to remember when making a Will.

- Make sure a family member knows where to find your Will. Ideally the original should be with your Lawyer and a copy kept with your other important documents at home.
- All Wills need to be signed or witnessed properly, each state has rules on this. Usually it requires two independent adults who are not potential beneficiaries.
- Take into account the small sentimental items or those with no commercial value such as photos. It is often these items which family members squabble over due to the fact the Will does not include instructions as to what should be left to beneficiaries.

## How can I find out more?

If you would like to talk confidentially to someone about including The Alannah and Madeline Foundation in your Will, you can call Cherie Shaw on 03 9697 0666. Cherie can discuss, without any obligation, the ways in which you can leave a donation to us and what your donation will achieve. We will ensure that what you leave to us is used well.

If you have included the Foundation in your Will, please let us know so that we can effectively plan for the Foundation's financial future and recognise your contribution in your lifetime. Full confidentiality can be assured if that is your wish.