

Media Release

3 November 2015

Junee Shortlisted for NSW Premier's Award

The GEO Group Australia ('GEO') is delighted to announce the shortlisting of Junee Correctional Centre ('Junee'), in partnership with NSW TAFE Riverina Institute, as a finalist in the Premier's Awards for Public Service 2015.

The Premier's Awards for Public Service recognise excellence in the delivery of public services to the NSW community by the public sector, non-government organisations and private businesses. The Awards comprise five award categories which both individuals and teams are assessed against. They link to the NSW Making It Happen strategies, the Government's agenda for change.

Junee is a finalist in the 'Providing better support and opportunities to the vulnerable' category. This award category recognises those who make outstanding contributions to the lives of vulnerable communities and people of NSW. Both individuals and teams are eligible to be nominated for this award.

Junee was nominated for its 'Transforming Lives: Inside and Out', the partnership between GEO and TAFE NSW Riverina Institute – who deliver Junee's prisoner education and training services.

Transforming Lives: Inside and Out's achievements and outcomes include:

- unit completion rates by prisoners of 92% – well above State averages
- the 'Prison Build' initiative – with prisoners building homes for families in need in the local community, and initiative with Habitat for Humanity
- the 'Yarns with Larn' initiative – with tutors and prisoners recording peer training videos for in-cell training of other prisoners
- a prisoner being named NSW TAFE Riverina Institute's 'Student of the Year'
- enrolment rates of 88% amongst prisoners – well above the State average

Junee's Offender Services Manager, Trevor Coles said "This is a tremendous result. One of the first things people comment on about Junee's many and varied innovations and community initiatives is how so many of them have a significant contribution from our partners TAFE NSW Riverina Institute. Indeed a number are initiatives suggested and developed by TAFE NSW Riverina Institute themselves. Having an education and training provider that not only

delivers a great service, but continually seeks ways to deliver better outcomes for prisoners and the local community is a huge benefit for us”.

June’s General Manager, Scott Brideoake added “Education and training is a tremendously important aspect of June’s work. Prisoners that are able to get and hold down a job when released are far less likely to reoffend. TAFE NSW Riverina Institute’s work is of great social importance, and key in helping GEO create safer NSW communities. I’m delighted to have them on board”.

The winners of the Premier’s Awards for Public Service 2015 will be announced on 17th November.

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About The GEO Group Australia

The GEO Group Australia is Australia’s largest provider of outsourced correctional services. With 1,500 employees, The GEO Group Australia provides safe and secure services to the Victorian, New South Wales and Queensland Governments through the management of correctional centres and the provision of primary health care services. GEO delivers critical public services that are cost effective and represent value for money for the taxpayer. With security and public safety as a priority, The GEO Group Australia intervenes with the 3,500 offenders in our care to reduce reoffending and prevent the community becoming victims of crime. The GEO Group Australia is part of The GEO Group, Inc. the world’s largest international provider of outsourced correctional services, with over 80,000 offenders and 116 facilities under management across four continents. For further information please visit www.geogroup.com.au

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