



## CHARTER

**VISION:** We celebrate:

*"The loving kindness of the heart of our God who visits us like the dawn from on high. He will give light to those in darkness and in the shadow of death, and guide us into the way of peace."*  
Canticle of Zechariah, Luke 1: 78-79

*"Dear Aboriginal people, the hour has come for you to take on new courage and new hope. You are called to open your hearts even more to the consoling, purifying and uplifting message of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who died that we might all have life, and have it to the full."*  
(cf. John 10:10) Pope John Paul II: Alice Springs. 29 November 1986.

Daydawn Advocacy Centre is an initiative of the Catholic Church on behalf of indigenous people, especially Noongar people of the South West, whose rights and legitimate aspirations are often difficult to attain. It is an act of solidarity for those who suffer disadvantage or rejection. It is an affirmation of the God-given dignity of every person. It is a call for reconciliation, mutual forgiveness and unity as one family under God.

The Daydawn Advocacy Centre promotes the rights of the individual and the full participation of the indigenous population in society.

As a Catholic organisation the Centre also promotes the full inclusion of Aboriginal people in the life, worship, education and spirit-filled community of the Church at every level. In this it works closely with the Catholic Aboriginal Ministry.

Daydawn Advocacy Centre seeks to respond faithfully to the challenges made by Pope John Paul II in his address to Aboriginal people in Alice Springs in November 1986. "The Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus Christ wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others." (No 13)

**THE NAME:** Daydawn is a little ghost town not far from Mt Magnet. It used to be a thriving gold-mining centre. Daydawn is a beautiful name. It calls to mind the quiet beginning of a new day, full of Easter hope and expectation. It is the perfect name for this Agency and the many new and exciting projects in the future.

**LOCATION:** Unit 9/5 Aberdeen Street, Piccadilly Square Central, Perth, 6000  
PO Box: 8750, Perth Business Centre, WA 6849

**THE CENTRE:** Will be:

≈ Culturally welcoming	≈ Respectful and compassionate
≈ Safe and friendly	≈ Actively enabling
≈ Non-bureaucratic	≈ Joyful and filled with the Holy Spirit

**STAFF:** Director, Religious retained on a stipend.  
Other employees when possible.  
Volunteers, men and women of goodwill.

**SERVICES:** We offer:

≈ <u>Advocacy</u> with Government organisations to access entitlements, such as – Centrelink payments, housing, employment and training schemes	
≈ <u>Advocacy</u> to provide or encourage needed services such as – emergency housing, education scholarships and rehabilitation services	
≈ <u>Submissions</u> to Government and other authorities on Aboriginal issues	
≈ <u>Networking</u> with Aboriginal leaders and organisations	
≈ <u>Promotion</u> of the traditional Noongar language	
≈ <u>Religious Assistance</u> , such as – <u>Catholic Education</u> ; <u>Inclusion</u> in the mainstream of the church life; <u>Spiritual Guidance</u> ; <u>Prayer Groups</u> and referrals to <u>Chaplains</u> and the <u>Catholic Aboriginal Ministry</u>	≈ <u>Counselling</u>
≈ <u>Reconciliation initiatives</u>	≈ <u>Financial Management</u>