

## **AYAC Statement on the Referendum Outcome**

AYAC extends its deepest empathy, unwavering support and heartfelt solidarity to First Nations people as they grapple with the outcome of the recent referendum. The result has been deeply disheartening for many, carrying personal and painful implications.

We acknowledge the strength and resilience of First Nations people who have endured harmful campaigning leading up to the referendum. Our sincere gratitude extends to those who, despite the immense personal sacrifice, generously shared their perspectives throughout this challenging period.

AYAC remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and stays true to our values of supporting the leadership and self-determination of First Nations young people.

As the national peak body for young Australians, we recognise the urgency to proactively continue the essential work towards reconciliation, and provide platforms for First Nations young people to lead positive change. They hold the solutions to the challenges their communities face, and we will proceed with empathy, respect, and a unified commitment to furthering this cause.

13YARN: 13 92 76 Lifeline: 13 11 14

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800