Tourism Accessibility, Inclusion and Tackling Inequality

Rosemary Teed, Founder/Director
Magical Getaway Foundation, Australia
24 June 2021
Only Australian charity dedicated to gifting FIRST EVER getaways/holidays to vulnerable children and their families; to bring HOPE

International Week of Fair and Sustainable Tourism for All

It’s not about the holiday it’s what the holiday brings
Based in Melbourne, Australia
Commenced August 2013
Ambassadors - Kat Stewart & Steven Bradbury OAM
Pioneering social tourism in Australia
Inaugural Australian member of the ISTO
1 in 3 Australian children have never been on a getaway/holiday.
Eligibility Criteria

• Never been on a getaway/holiday
• Prepared to tell their story to the Foundation; to share with others
First Ever Getaways/Holidays

- Referred by organisations
- Fully funded to locations in Australia
- Visits to 3 local tourist attractions included
- Support before, during and after the getaway/holiday
Socio-Economic, Cultural, Physical Barriers

- Family Violence, Mental Health, Homelessness
- Kinship Care, Family Breakdown, Neglect
- Sexual Abuse, Poverty, Unemployment
- Medical Conditions, Disabilities
- Cultural Background, Gender, Religious Beliefs
Families Facing Very Challenging Circumstances

Consequences

• Low self-esteem, helplessness, trauma
• Sadness, feeling alone, socially isolated, fear
• Depression, stress, anxiety, suicide
• Despair
• No **HOPE** for the future
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Accessibility and Inclusion for All in Australia

Kirsty’s Family Holiday
• Australia considered to be a lucky country.
• Disbelief that 1 in 3 Australian children have never been on a holiday.
• Lack of awareness and knowledge of social tourism.
• A journey of 1000 miles begins with a single step!
Three Years Later …

One act of kindness has a flow on effect. I saw them (my sons) become quite kind and they wanted to help other people as well. I would speak to people and talk about the holiday. From there I got work because I was out in the public eye and had a conversation with them and could get connections to get work, let people in a little, step out the door, start a conversation and feel comfortable.

Annalise (Mum)
Thank You for Your Participation

Hope

www.magicalgetawayfoundation.org