Time for action: No to Child Poverty
National Rallies 13th April 2013

National rallies will take place this Saturday putting a spotlight on the paralyzing impacts of the contentious legislation which moved 72,000 single parents onto Newstart 1st Jan 2013. The united voices will be calling for action; and as the chorus grows so does the expectation that the Government must take action and all eyes will be on this year’s budget.

The evidence is overwhelming. Terese Edwards, CEO, points out that “60% of the impacted parents were already working which dispels the myth that it’s about jobs. While 1 in 10 impacted parents are caring for a child or adult with a significant disability; a similar number of parents have a ‘vulnerability indicator’ which indicates significant barriers to work such as homelessness, mental health problems or injuries. These families are now stranded with an uncertain and bleak future.

The Government must:
1. Increase Newstart Single by at least $60 per week. Assisting parents to keep a roof over their heads, food on the table and provide the basics for their children.
2. Restore Earnings Thresholds to equivalence with the Parenting Payment thus providing a financial reward from paid work.
3. Support access to the Pension Education Supplement on Newstart enabling parents to study and to gain that much needed qualification.

Information regarding the rallies is available on the Single Parent Action Group site:

ADELAIDE: http://www.facebook.com/events/345420225563336/
NEWCASTLE: http://www.facebook.com/events/341840492582527/
HOBART: http://www.facebook.com/events/494162027298908/
MELBOURNE: http://www.facebook.com/events/557221640976245/
PERTH: http://www.facebook.com/events/147509388758496/
SYDNEY: http://www.facebook.com/groups/248350818628402/
BRISBANE: http://www.facebook.com/groups/189677284509438/

Media comment: Terese Edwards 0439211493

National Council for Single Mothers and their Children Inc.
Eliminate and respond to violence, hardship and inequality for single mothers and their children
PO Box 2238, Hilton, 5033  P 08 8354 3856  E ncsmc@ncsmc.org.au  www.ncsmc.org.au