BEST PRACTICE THE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL YOUTH BOOT CAMPS
March 28th, 2013

Positive results for the Territory’s young offenders will be the measure of the Youth Boot Camps.

Two camp models will be piloted, one aimed at young people at risk of offending and the other at those who have already committed crimes.

Minister for Correctional Services John Elferink has travelled extensively to see firsthand the work being done by NGOs with young and adult offenders.

“A different approach is needed to reduce the number of young offenders and I am confident youth boot camps will turn lives around,” Mr Elferink said.

“I have been extremely impressed by the results being achieved by some of these organisations and it has reassured me that we can and will deliver better outcomes for young offenders to stop them before they become life criminals.

“Young offenders need access to rehabilitation programs that are well governed, accountable and able to support behavioural change.

“The quality of the camps and the results that can be achieved for this group of young people are the focus of the Country Liberals Government.

“As well as visiting existing camps, we have captured the expertise of the NGOs who work with this group of young people and will continue to do so before, after and during their participation in the Youth Boot Camp Program.

“This included consultations in Alice Springs and Darwin which helped shape the two models. For example, the boot camp model for young people in detention has been changed to a sentenced boot camp so those on community-based orders can access the program.

“Expressions of interest to run the camps have been received from Territory and interstate non government organisations.”

The tenders for the Youth Boot Camps close on Wednesday 3 April 2013.

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