

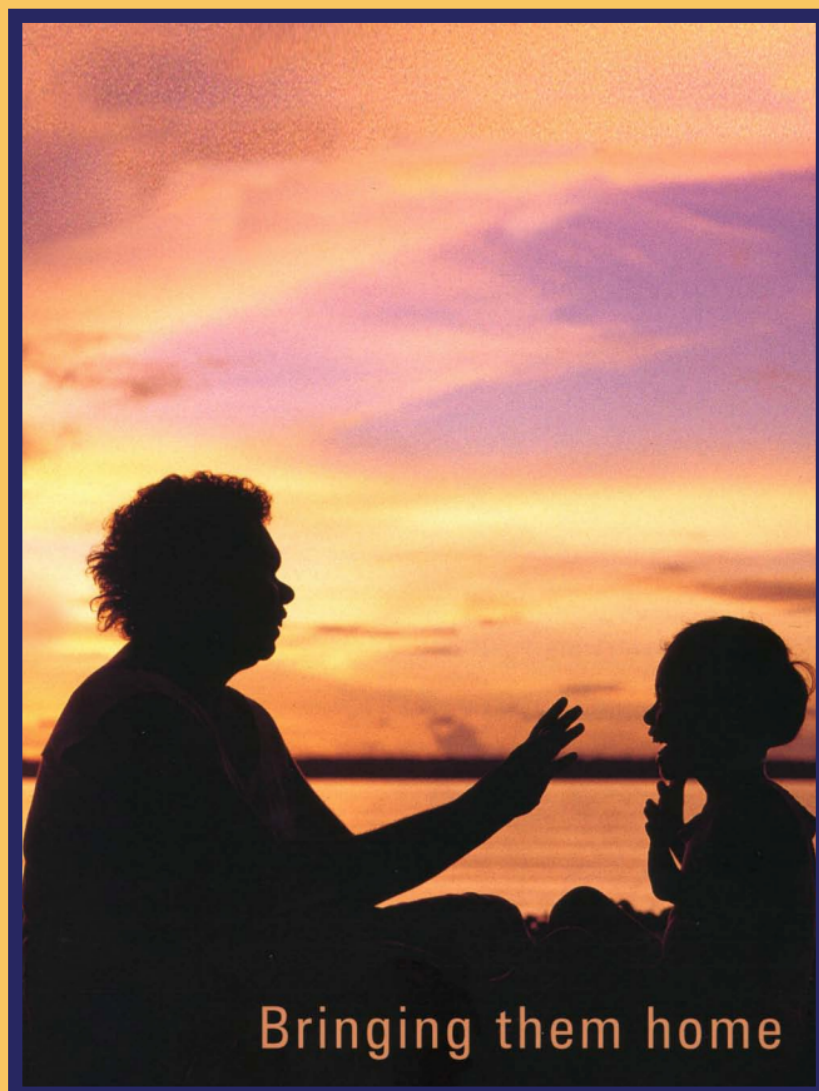
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2022

National Day of Healing and National Reconciliation Week offers people across Australia the opportunity to reflect on and express regret for injustices of the past, to focus on reconciliation, to hear about the culture and history of Australia's Indigenous people, and to explore new and better ways of meeting challenges in our communities. These occasions aim to give people across Australia the opportunity to focus on reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians. It is a time to reflect on achievements so far and on what must still be done to achieve reconciliation.

BE BRAVE.
MAKE CHANGE.



On May 26, 1997, a report was presented entitled “Bringing them Home”. This was prepared by the National Enquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families. It included sad and painful stories of the removal of thousands of Indigenous children from their families. The Report recommended that a Sorry Day should be held. National Sorry Day has since become the National Day of Healing.



Bringing them home

The week following National Day of Healing is called Reconciliation Week. It is framed by two significant dates: May 27 is the anniversary of the 1967 referendum in which 90% of all Australians voted to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Indigenous people and include original inhabitants in the census. June 3 marks the anniversary of the High Court's Mabo decision, which recognised the Native Title Rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and overturned the myth of “terra nullius”.



God of justice and forgiveness,
Guide us as we continue on our
pathways to Reconciliation.
Grant us the courage to speak out
against the injustices that our
Indigenous brothers and sisters continue
to suffer.
Help us to see with new eyes, to listen to
the stories of our Indigenous brothers
and sisters and to feel with a heart of
compassion.
Help us to build right relations with each
other based on truth and justice.
We ask this prayer through Christ our
Lord, Amen.

