

(CSP - Consult at ion)

Greater Forward Movement Inc. has lodged numerous submissions in the all important areas of:

1. Australian South Sea Islanders Women 's Leadership
2. Australian South Sea Islanders Men's Leadership
3. Australian South Sea Islanders Disability
4. Australian South Sea Islanders self harming and suicide
5. Supporting People with Cancer - An Australian South Sea Islander Perspective
6. Stronger Families development with Elder Involvement - An Australian South Sea Islander Perspective
7. Australian South Sea Islander Youth Development

To date over the past several years all of our submissions have been unsuccessful. This is to the detriment of our people for as an organization and individuals we consult with many.

Australian South Sea Islander communities Queensland and New South Wales and there is much need for community support, social development, individual and group empowerment.

We require a focus to be developed around the department's more effective engagement with the Australian South Sea Islander people.

We are the descendants of the original 'Kanaka's', Blackbirded to Australia late 18th century to develop agricultural industries under the most harshest conditions.

It is a black mark against this nation that even our Australian Historical Literature refers to the, 'Kanaka's,' as the 'forgotten people.'

Our communities do suffer from the generational baggage passed on as a result of this, 'Slavery,' and we need support to process the dysfunction out of our communities. As an organization that is led by prominent Australian South Sea Islanders and Elders we play that role in educating and empowering our people to rise above the atrocities of the past.

We are also involved in supporting the Pacific Labour scheme workers who currently come from Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji and elsewhere and they greatly contribute to agricultural development in Australia today.

But we can't continue to do it alone. Simply put, within the writing's our of above stated submissions, we have the, 'Vision,' to address some of our debilitating circumstances, but we require the government to provide the, 'Provision,' albeit the necessary funding.

In the grand scheme of things our asking monies/funding is minuscule and yet we fail to gain the support.

I am most happy on behalf of Greater Forward Movement Inc. to forward any of our submissions should the department request such.

However, for now see attach our document, "Time in Motion," a reflection which gives clear indication as to who we are and what we are doing.

We welcome further discussion not only as an interest but perhaps more as a priority.

Sincerely Yours

Greater Forward Movement Inc.