

58/434 P/A.

AOW 12/9

Welfare Branch,

MRW/AJ.

30th September, 1963

Superintendent,
 Retta Dixon Homes,
 Box 38, P.O.
DARWIN. N.T.

Dear Mr. Pattenore,

DISCHARGE OF CHILDREN FROM RETTA DIXON HOMES.

In order to better serve the interests of children in our care, it is proposed in future to give more consideration to their ultimate placement upon discharge.

In some cases it is not necessary to seek placement as the children return to their parents or to their previous home. However, in some instances it has been found that children who turn 18 years of age and thereby cease to be State Children, have no home, accommodation or employment to go to and it becomes the responsibility of the Welfare Branch to assist them. It is these persons with whom I am at present concerned and would appreciate your co-operation in the proposal which is now submitted.

When you have considered this matter, I would appreciate your comments regarding the various aspects covered with suggested amendments or alterations regarding material which should be added or omitted from the report. Following receipt of comments from each of the hostels, a proforma will be prepared which will be made available to you on which reports should be made.

Following introduction of this method, these reports should reach me six months prior to the due date of discharge of any child from your hostel.

Suggested Data:NameAgeDate of birthYour reference No.Our reference No.Date of admission to institutionReason for admission

Names and ages of other members of family
currently resident at your hostel

If State Child

Report on Child to be Discharged:Health

Education.

Copies of school reports.

Where applicable a report from the teacher regarding the child's attitude to schooling, to authority and to the other children.

Parents
 next of kin →

- 2 -

Employment:

The report to include comments on the aptitudes of the child toward any particular field of employment.

Attitudes:

Reports from house parents, supervisors and/or superintendents regarding the general attitude of the child to authority, discipline and other children.


Aspirations:

The report to include some indication as to what the child wishes to do on discharge.

General Comments

Your co-operation in this matter would be appreciated and I should like to have your comments before the end of October.

Yours sincerely,


for (H.C. GIESE.)
Director of Child Welfare.