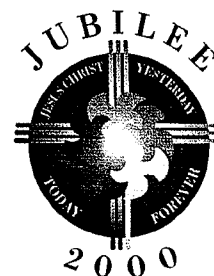


CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

Bishop's Office



01 April 1999

Mr Kevin Baker

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Dear Kevin

I have received your letter and I feel deep sympathy for the difficult position you are in. I have noted the great contribution you have made to the orphanage and Neerkol and to the Sisters.

I regret that the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton is not able to assist you with support, legally or financially. I am wondering whether you have sought Legal Aid as it would appear that your expenses to this point, would qualify you for assistance.

I would assure you that we have not provided legal expenses for any persons associated with Neerkol who have made allegations or brought charges against any person. We have entered into negotiations with damages claims, but that is in another area of recompense. My apology for any abuse which has occurred at Neerkol over its many years of existence, was certainly a general one and in no way directed to any individual.

I am sorry I cannot be of practical assistance in the way you seek, but I assure you of my prayerful support as you face this heavy cross.

May the strength of Jesus sustain you.

Yours sincerely

Brian Heenan  
Bishop of Rockhampton