

Mercy Administration Centre

ROCKHAMPTON CONGREGATION
OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY
OF AUSTRALIA



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22 February 1999

Mrs Mary Eather
Secretary
Neerkol Action Support Group
PO Box 350
Paradise Point Gold Coast 4216

Dear Mary

I hope that by now the offer from the Catholic Diocese and ourselves to settle the litigation issue out of court has been communicated to your Committee. I felt the need to write to your Committee and to let you know that the Sisters of Mercy do not feel in any way that our commitment to helping the former residents of Neerkol ends with the settlement of the litigation.

My leadership of the Rockhampton Sisters of Mercy concludes in December 2001 and I give you my personal assurance that the Professional Standards Office established to assist former Neerkol residents with the provision of counselling and other professional services will remain open and available to former residents of Neerkol until at least the end of my term as leader.

Naturally, I cannot make any commitments beyond that date as there will be a new leader and a new Leadership Team in place from January 2002 and they will no doubt review all decisions made during my term of office. The commitment that I am making to you now ensures that the Professional Standards Office will still be available to former Neerkol residents for a definite period of almost three(3) years.

Mary, I hope this assurance as to the continuation of the Professional Standards Office will be a sign of the ongoing and lasting commitment of the Rockhampton Sisters of Mercy to helping the former residents of Neerkol. If you would like to discuss this matter or any matter with me, please feel free to give me a call whenever you wish.

Best wishes

Di-Anne Rowan
Congregational Leader

c.c. AYD Chairman, NASG
c.c. Allan Allaway Media Spokesperson, NASG
c.c. REDACTED Committee Member, NASG