



## Media Release

### Drug Action Week celebrated by Oasis

**Sydney, 24 June 2011** – Today the Salvation Army’s Oasis Youth Support Network (OYSN) has played host to an event for homeless and disadvantaged young people at their Surry Hills centre to commemorate Drug Action Week.

Oasis’s event is one of 750 organised activities that have taken place across Australia this week, helping to raise awareness of alcohol and other drugs issues, and to promote the achievements of the frontline workers who strive to reduce drug-related harm.

Martin Kennedy and Steve Naughton from the Sydney Roosters stopped by to take charge of the barbeque, serving up lunch and connecting with young people who access over twenty of Oasis’ innovative services.

The event featured a number of information stalls to help prevent and reduce alcohol and drug-related issues including an enormous jumping castle, spray painting as well as an African drumming workshop and henna tattooist.

In addition to the many information stalls, a ‘Spin the Wheel’ activity proved to be a favourite as Oasis youth tested their knowledge on drug and alcohol issues and awareness.

“There were certainly some surprised faces when we revealed the answers to the Drug and Alcohol wheel, we can definitely see the penny dropping for some of our kids which is a great thing,” says Jason Poutawa an Oasis staff member.

The 2011 Drug Action Week is an initiative of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia and is scheduled to take place in all States and Territories on Sunday, 19 June to Saturday, 25 June.

#### For further information please contact

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Photo 1 (Oasis2011DrugActionWeek1): Roosters players Steve Naughton and Martin Kennedy take time out of their BBQ cooking for Oasis Drug Action Day 2011.

Photo 2 (Oasis2011DrugActionWeek2): Jason, Daniel and Alisha spin the ‘Wheel of Drug and Alcohol’ at Oasis Drug Action Week 2011.

Photo 3 (Oasis2011DrugActionWeek3): Charlotte and Jess try their hands at the aerosol workshop at Oasis Drug Action Week 2011.

The Oasis Youth Support Network is The Salvation Army’s major response to youth homelessness in Sydney’s inner city. With more than 20 innovative programs, Oasis offers outreach, crisis and transitional accommodation and specialist intervention services to help disconnected young people get back on their feet and begin turning their lives around. For more information please visit: [www.salvos.org.au/oasis](http://www.salvos.org.au/oasis)