



**Barnardos New Zealand  
National Office**  
P O Box 6434  
85-87 Ghuznee Street  
Wellington  
Ph: 64-4 385 7560  
Fax: 64-4 382 6700  
[www.barnardos.org.nz](http://www.barnardos.org.nz)

## Media Release

28 September 2006

### Barnardos prepares for Big Toddle - November 2006

Throughout November, more than 6000 under-five year olds around New Zealand will step out for Barnardos in the Barnardos Big Toddle.

“This is the second year that Barnardos New Zealand has organised the Big Toddle and the event is already shaping up to be one of the biggest and brightest annual fundraising events for children,” says Murray Edridge, the Chief Executive of Barnardos New Zealand.

“The Big Toddle aims to get a record number of children walking their way to health and fitness while raising funds for Barnardos community and family services as well as their own group.”

So far 150 early childhood groups from across the country have registered. Most will hold their own Toddle, while others will join forces.

“It’s fantastic to see the level of support Barnardos is getting from children and their families. The great thing about the Big Toddle is that everyone’s a winner. Every child who takes part in these fun events will receive a medal, and the money raised will be used will enable our professional social workers and parent educators to continue working with children and their families, to ensure that children receive the care, support and education they need to thrive.”

For more details about organising or joining a Big Toddle, contact Julie Van Herel, the Barnardos Big Toddle Coordinator, on (03) 353 6453 or [Julie.vanherel@barnardos.org.nz](mailto:Julie.vanherel@barnardos.org.nz) or visit [www.barnardos.org.nz](http://www.barnardos.org.nz).

ENDS

#### For more details contact:

Joan Begg  
Communications Adviser, Barnardos  
Phone: (04) 385 7560  
Cell: 021 263 8593  
Email: [joan.begg@barnardos.org.nz](mailto:joan.begg@barnardos.org.nz)

Julie Van Herel,  
Barnardos Big Toddle National Coordinator  
(03) 353 6453  
[julie.vanherel@barnardos.org.nz](mailto:julie.vanherel@barnardos.org.nz)

#### Note:

Barnardos is the country’s largest not-for-profit, charitable child-focused organisation. Its team of dedicated and professional staff work with children (and their families) in communities throughout New Zealand, ensuring they receive the care, education and support they need. Funds raised in the Big Toddle will go towards services such as:

- Family Support Service: an individually tailored social work support service which helps families identify and make changes which will improve the wellbeing of their children. Support workers visit families in their own homes to help develop family resiliency, reinforce positive parenting and help them access community resources.
- Children’s Contact Service: enables children to have safe and significant contact with non-custodial parents.

Barnardos is also one of the country’s largest providers of early childhood education and care.

For more details visit [www.barnardos.org.nz](http://www.barnardos.org.nz).