



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **For Release - 26 July 2021**

#### **3Bridges forms Partnership with Western Sydney University**

3Bridges CEO Raj Nair, is pleased to announce a new partnership with Western Sydney University to produce a White Paper on 3Bridges Early Years Support Service (EYSS).

The findings generated from the pilot study will be used to shape the future delivery of the program, inform policy change in the future, and highlight the role of early intervention during this critical time.

Led by Associate Professor Danielle Tracey from Western Sydney University, the pilot study represents the first independent study of the Early Years Support Service. Associate Professor Tracey says “this research will help us understand the needs of vulnerable mothers and what features of the EYSS they value the most. This presents an opportunity to directly inform service delivery.”

The Early Years Support Service is a vital early intervention program for mothers with children aged 0-3 years who are vulnerable due to isolation from family or friends, minimal support, multiple births, having ill health or disability in the family, have partners serving in the Australian Defence force, are new to the area, or experiencing post-natal depression, anxiety, or domestic violence.

Trained and supervised volunteers, including family support workers for at risk mothers, provide weekly in-home support to mothers in the Sutherland, St George, and part of the Canterbury-Bankstown local government area.

“Our Early Years Support Service has supported 2,016 families, with the assistance of approximately 2,000 volunteers to date,” said Raj Nair, 3Bridges CEO.

“Informal evaluations have been positive, but this independent research will generate an understanding of the reported impact of the program to the lives of the vulnerable mothers and their child, as well as implications for the social investment from state and federal agencies,” Raj Nair continued.

The White Paper will be finalised in August 2022.

If you would like to learn more about 3Bridges Early Years Support Service or any of 3Bridges services, please visit [www.3Bridges.org.au](http://www.3Bridges.org.au) or contact 1300 327 434

#### **Media Contacts:**

Vanessa Gauci 0421 462 842 [Vanessa.gauci@3Bridges.org.au](mailto:Vanessa.gauci@3Bridges.org.au)  
Ali Sardyga 0429 936 347 [a.sardyga@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:a.sardyga@westernsydney.edu.au)