

Junee Correctional Centre supports the *Hope for Tonga* campaign

In response to January's devastating tsunami in Tonga, staff and inmates at Junee Correctional Centre have held a range of fundraising activities to support Pasifika's *Hope for Tonga* campaign.

Throughout last week, barbecues were held across the centre to enable inmates to purchase food and participate in the fundraising effort – with \$3,000 raised.

Pasifika inmates were invited to participate in activities in the prison's Cultural Centre including music, singing, sharing stories, prayer and knowledge of their cultures, while Tongan flags and colours were on display.

Junee Correctional Centre General Manager Richard Heycock said staff and inmates were always enthusiastic about supporting local charitable events and the campaign was close to the hearts of many people at the centre.

"We have staff, inmates and their families who are extremely concerned about their loved ones in Tonga who have been impacted after an underwater volcano erupted on 15 January and triggered a tsunami that shattered the Kingdom of Tonga," Mr Heycock said.

"This was an opportunity for everyone at the centre to work together and raise much-needed funds for a population trying to rebuild their lives."

ENDS

- *The GEO Group Australia is Australia's largest provider of private correctional services. Our focus is on rehabilitating prisoners and giving them the support and growth to become positive and productive contributors to our society.*
- *GEO Australia manages Junee Correctional Centre on behalf of Corrective Services NSW, with 370 staff and a capacity for 1300 prisoners. Find out more at: geogroup.com.au*

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