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## Cubby houses built at Fulham Correctional Centre donated to local schools

Two new cubby houses built by men undertaking a Certificate II in Construction while at Fulham Correctional Centre have been donated to local primary schools.

Fulham Correctional Centre's Vocational Services Manager, Rose Ljubicic, said the cubby houses were constructed to building code standards by six prisoners last year as part of the course being delivered by instructors from the Bendigo Kangan Institute.

The completed cubby houses, which have been painted with cartoon characters by two other men at Fulham, have been donated to the Maffra Primary School and Nambrok Denison Primary School.

"The men involved in building these cubby houses have been learning construction and joinery skills for 6 to 12 months in our Industry Learning Centre as they work towards attaining a formal qualification while in custody," Ms Ljubicic said.

"These kinds of projects present a valuable opportunity for men in Fulham Correctional Centre to attain skills and qualifications as part of GEO's rehabilitation and reintegration efforts.

"GEO supports as many men as possible to gain the skills they need to improve their chances of securing meaningful employment post-release.

"The men also have an increased sense of pride in their work knowing they will provide a long-term benefit for members of the local community."

Nambrok Denison Primary School's Acting Principal, Kylie Edney, said: "The new cubby house will be a great addition to our current playground, providing an environment that encourages exploration, cooperation, and communication. The space will be enjoyed by many of our students, and we are appreciative of this donation."

<u>Photo caption:</u> Nambrok Denison Primary School Acting Principal Kylie Edney (L), with Fulham Correctional Centre Manager Natalie Greenfield and Vocational Services Manager Rose Ljubicic.

- 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 Fulham Correctional Centre on behalf of Corrections Victoria, with 390 staff and a capacity for over 1000 prisoners. Find out more at: <u>geogroup.com.au</u>