



14 June 2019

To whom it may concern,

**Statement of support – Mr James Harding**

I write to you today to express my support for Mr James Harding in his role as a mentor and founder of 'Hard Cuddles,' an organisation working with young men, providing workshops on alcohol and drug addiction.

Following years of hardship in his own life, Mr Harding is now ten years sober, having gone through his own journey of addiction and recovery. He has learned from his personal experience and has worked to better himself and his community, holding a Diploma in Counselling and founding Hard Cuddles to mentor others.

I have personally met with James and heard his life journey. He is to be commended for taking back control of his life and using his personal, lived experience to mentor others on the dangers of addiction.

He has seen the dark side of drug use and its negative side effects on an individual's physical and mental health. He is now using this experience to support those improving their lives, as well as prevent others from going down a similar path.

I encourage you to meet with James to hear more about Hard Cuddles and learn about the organisation. Any support you can provide to this cause would be greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Kind Regards,

**Greg Hunt MP**  
**Federal Member for Flinders**