



Speech By  
**Stephen Bennett**


**MEMBER FOR BURNETT**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 October 2021

## ADJOURNMENT

### Hearts of Purple

 **Mr BENNETT** (Burnett—LNP) (7.07 pm): As members have been walking around Queensland parliament for the past couple of months I am sure they have seen the bright purple bins that now have pride of place. These bins are the brainchild of the team at Hearts of Purple and its CEO, Michelle Beattie. This non-government charity was formed in 2017 following the brutal murder of Teresa Bradford. Today a dedicated volunteer committee works around the clock to help those most vulnerable in our community in terms of domestic and family violence. I am honoured to be able to assist Hearts of Purple in delivering its purple bin program around Bundaberg and the Burnett region and here in parliament.

This program helps to raise much needed funds to keep the charity going. The vital container collection moneys are providing security for those most vulnerable. I advise the House that to date, thanks to all members' good efforts, we have raised nearly \$850. As every 10 cents represents one container, that is a lot of containers! I point out that that also buys two security watches which are monitored for the security of those people escaping domestic and family violence. They can sound alerts and contact emergency numbers as well as send information to a manned monitoring centre and the police. This is just one of the great initiatives of Hearts of Purple.

I take this opportunity to thank all of the wonderful businesses in the Bundaberg and Burnett electorates that are on board with the purple bin program. I give a big shout-out to Just Freight, Metalcorp, Bundaberg Lunchbox, LJ Hooker Bundaberg, Puddles Car Wash and ABC Recycling. These are great local businesses that are leading the way to end domestic and sexual violence. I cannot thank them enough for joining us in this initiative. I implore more local businesses to come on board so we can roll out more purple bins to raise much needed funds. The biggest thank you must go to the incredible Michelle Beattie. I also acknowledge the team here at parliament and thank Mr Speaker for being so generous in his support of this program.

Following Teresa Bradford's horrific murder, Michelle and her team saw the holes and the failures in the system and took action to fix them to ensure that victims of domestic violence were kept safe and alive. It goes without saying that the Hearts of Purple volunteers are remarkable people. Every day those volunteers take direct and swift action to make real and lasting changes, but now it is time to join Michelle and her team to say no to domestic and family violence. Home should be a place where we all feel safe, but for some it can be a dangerous place with no escape. While one voice might go unheard, together, including in this House, we can do a lot more to free those harmed by domestic and family violence. I ask all members here today to promote the Purple Bin program in their communities and here in parliament to deal with the scourge of domestic violence. Members, that means that I do not want to see cans and bottles in a bin that is not appropriate. Let us make sure that these preventive strategies are something we can all work towards in the House. We can do this through to Christmas and after Christmas to make sure that women and children are protected.