Date

Dear [Your local MP/Prime Minister/Premier/Minister/Treasurer]

**Re: Funding for Lucy’s Project**

[Insert introduction – your name, role, organisation if relevant, and your insights into domestic and family violence perpetrated against people with animals and animals]

I am writing to express my support for the provision of ongoing funding to Lucy’s Project, a charity that aims to improve the safety of people and animals impacted by domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV). Lucy’s Project was founded in 2013 in the Northern Rivers of NSW and relied primarily on the contributions of volunteers for the first decade. The NSW Government has provided two-year funding to Lucy’s Project and this ends on 30 June 2025. I am concerned that Lucy’s Project is now facing the prospect of having to cease or significantly reduce its operations if it is unable to secure additional funding.

Around 7 in 10 Australian households live with animals and 1 in 4 women in Australia have experienced domestic and family violence. Perpetrators of DFSV will often threaten to harm, harm, or even kill, animals to exert power and control over women and children. Animal abuse is an indicator of future, frequent, or more severe forms of intimate partner violence. Lucy’s Project is the only organisation in Australia that is solely focused on creating systems change to improve the safety and wellbeing of people with animals, and animals, impacted by DFSV.

The provision of ongoing funding to Lucy’s Project will enable the organisation to continue to:

* Collaborate and build partnerships across DFSV, homelessness, community, animal welfare and other sectors to promote coordinated supports for victim-survivors;
* Advocate for policy, program and legislative changes to improve safety and wellbeing outcomes for women, children and LGBTQ+ people with animals, and animals;
* Undertake and promote research that focuses on promoting the safety, healing, and recovery of people with animals and animals impacted by DFSV; and
* Deliver education for workers across sectors to equip them to improve their service responses to people with animals, and animals, impacted by DFSV.

[Insert details about your connection to Lucy’s Project, such as whether you have attended a training session, our conference, or collaborated with us on a project or campaign and any benefit you, your clients or your organisation experienced]

**Can you please act today to ensure Lucy’s Project receives the funding it needs so that people and animals experiencing domestic and family violence can find safety?**

Please reach out to Monique Dam, CEO of Lucy’s Project at ceo@lucysproject.com if you would like to meet with her to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name, role, organisation and contact details]