



celebrating potential, creating possibilities

August 3, 2009

MEDIA RELEASE

Community Come together to Makeover Children's Respite Home

As part of National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Week The Centre is opening one of it's Children Respite Homes that has recently had an extensive makeover to bring colour and joy to the 30 children who spend regular time at the home.

Judy Hogben, The Centre's CEO, said a generous group of individuals and businesses donated over \$150,000 to refurbish the Home. To say thanks The Centre is presenting them with a Community Excellence Award at tomorrow's Official Opening.

"This project was a perfect example of the community working together to achieve the very best outcomes for children with CP who need our support," said Ms Hogben.

"Arnhem Court's new look is due to the refurbishment of the Home's activities room and outdoor play area which now has a bright new wheelchair swing, a new state of the art activities room and an interactive garden with potted colour and fresh herbs" Ms Hogben added.

It has taken over 12 months for the refurbishments to be finalised and Ms Hogben said everyone is excited about the Official Opening of the Home's New Look on tomorrow, Tuesday 4th August, 2009.

Arnhem Court is one of The Centre's Children's Respite Homes providing respite care for up to 30 children aged six to 18 years on a rotational basis each week. Respite care provides the opportunity for children to play with other kids their age, while giving parents relief from their everyday duties and time to spend with other members of their family.

-ENDS-

Photo opportunity: Official Opening of the home which showcases newly designed interactive activities room, wheelchair swing, sensory room and a colourful new garden, Community Excellence Award Winners

Date: Monday 3 August

Time: 11.30am

Address: 4-6 Arnhem Court, Ballajura

For further information contact:

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FACTS ABOUT CEREBRAL PALSY

- *CP is a permanent physical condition that affects movement.*
- *In Australia a child is born with CP every 18 hours.*
- *Australians under 18 are three times more likely to be diagnosed with cerebral palsy than cancer.*
- *There is no pre-birth test, no known cure and severity is on the increase.*
- *For most the cause of CP is unknown.*
- *CP is not a disease, it is not contagious.*
- *CP can be as mild as just a weakness in one hand ranging to almost complete lack of movement.*
- *Since 1951 The Cerebral Palsy Association has forged an enviable reputation as one of the leading disability service providers in WA. In line with the outstanding work we do in the area of CP management and support to those with disability, on 13 March 2007 we adopted a new name The Centre for Cerebral Palsy and colourful new logo.*