



celebrating potential, creating possibilities

27 November 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

From Bank to Backyard – bankwest Gives Community Home a Makeover

On December 2, 20 volunteers from bankwest, part of the HBOS Australia group, will swap their suits for spades and paintbrushes as they make over Threadleaf, one of The Centre for Cerebral Palsy's Community Homes in Mirrabooka.

bankwest's hardworking volunteers will paint the picket fence and pergola area, install fairy lights and a water feature, give the garden a makeover with new pots, plants and mulch, and provide a brand new outdoor setting to brighten up the home ready for Christmas.

Threadleaf is a group home that provides supported accommodation for four adults aged between 25 and 45 through The Centre's Individual People Programme which provides adults with greater independence and the opportunity to make lifelong friendships with their housemates.

"The Centre spends over \$6.5 million each year to provide accommodation, care and basic maintenance for its 12 community homes. Unfortunately this funding does not extend to the special things that make a house a home. Which is why HBOS' kind offer to makeover Threadleaf and bring colour and joy to our four residents is so very much appreciated", says Kathy Kane, Fundraising Manager at The Centre for Cerebral Palsy

Threadleaf is The Centre's 10th Community Home makeover this year and has been made possible through the generosity of staff members at bankwest volunteering their precious time to make this possible.

"We strongly believe in making a meaningful difference to lives of people in need. Just one of the ways we do this is through our volunteering programme – actively helping to develop society and improve the health and wellbeing of underprivileged Australians" says Elisa Anelli of HBOS Australia.

If you are interested in including The Centre in your workplace Community Service Programme please contact Kathy Kane on (08) 9443 0228.

-ENDS-

Photo opportunity: HBOS Australia/ bankwest volunteers working hard in the backyard.

Date: Tuesday 2nd December

Time: 11.30am

Address: 8 Threadleaf Way, Mirrabooka, Perth WA

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.*