



*Proud CEO Judy Hogben with Award Winners Sarah Kennedy (L) and Bernadette Williams (R)*

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **The Centre's Staff Shine at DSW Awards**

The Centre for Cerebral Palsy's (The Centre's) outstanding staff took home two of the four **Disability Support Worker (DSW) Awards** presented at Burswood's Grand Ballroom on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

These Awards celebrate and recognise support staff working in the Western Australian disability services field and acknowledge outstanding achievements made by disability support workers, recognising the valuable role they play in the inclusion of people with disabilities.

"Our staff work hard every day to improve the lives of people with disabilities and often this goes unnoticed, so the DSW Awards are a wonderful opportunity to recognise those

outstanding people in the disability sector who go over and above the call of duty,” says Judy Hogben, The Centre’s CEO.

Five of The Centre’s staff were nominated for the Awards, in all four categories:

- *Individual Accommodation Support*
  - Tracey Spaduccini
  - Bernadette Williams
- *Accommodation Support*
  - Barbara Budd
- *Community Support*
  - Kelly Frater
- *Emerging Leader*
  - Sarah Kennedy

Bernadette Williams from Mullaloo was the deserving recipient of the Individual Accommodation Support Award for her role in improving quality of life for a young man with cerebral palsy, and for helping his family come to terms with his disability.

Balcatta resident, Sarah Kennedy, was named the Disability Support Workers Emerging Leader for 2009. Sarah’s dedication to empowering people with disabilities makes her a leader in the field and someone who can make a real difference to the lives of people around her.

To find out more about how you can make a difference to the lives of people with disabilities, visit [www.tccp.com.au/employment](http://www.tccp.com.au/employment) for employment opportunities at The Centre for Cerebral Palsy.

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*Image courtesy of Rovis Media*

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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.*