



Sid Sidebottom MP ... for a fair go in Braddon

Media Release

January 15, 2008

Sid welcomes \$4 million in additional HACC funding

FRAIL, older and disabled North-West Coasters and their carers have benefitted from a share in \$4.094 million in additional funding under the Home and Community Care (HACC) program, Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom said.

North-West HACC organisations are among 20 across Tasmania to receive additional Federal Government funding. This brings the total HACC funding for Tasmania to \$49.812 million for 2008-09 - an overall increase on 2007-08 funding of more than \$4 million.

“The HACC Program assists more than 29,000 people in Tasmania, providing vital services like domestic assistance, personal care, social support, respite, and home modifications,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“The additional funding will also be used to support volunteers and carers – the compassionate and hard working people who are so often overlooked.”

North-West organisations receiving additional funding include:

- **Stanhope Healthcare (Devonport): \$75,000** - to expand the personal care program.
- **Mersey Community Care: \$71,000** - to expand the existing social support program, and to upgrade computer equipment.
- **Anglicare (Devonport): \$40,000** - to expand existing domestic assistance program.
- **Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation: \$16,000** - to complete repairs and maintenance at the day centre, and to purchase a new ride-on lawn mower.
- **Alzheimer’s Australia Tasmania (Launceston, NW Coast): \$161,000** - to establish an assessment, education, counselling and social support service on the North-West Coast for people who have dementia, and to purchase a new vehicle.
- **Community Care NESB (Launceston, NW Coast): \$142,000** - to expand personal care programs for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds living on the NW Coast.

The North-West Coast will also benefit from HACC funding delivered to statewide organisations including TasCOSS (\$48,000), Department of Health and Human Services (\$966,000), Carers Tasmania (\$108,000), and Volunteering Tasmania (\$46,000) among others.

“The Home and Community Care program is crucial to the lives of these North-West Coasters, because without it they would have to move prematurely into residential care,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“We want to keep people independent in their own homes for as long as they feel comfortable.

“A bit of extra help with things around the house makes the world of difference, particularly for older people and their carers.”

For more information: Eliza Young

0439 342 159