

Family Relationship Centre

Since opening in September, the Noarlunga Family Relationship Centre has assisted over 275 families. The first phone call was taken at 9.05am on opening day and demand for the service has continued at a steady pace ever since.

Team Manager, Andrew Drummond, says the first six months have been a very intense but satisfying time. "The challenge of establishing a new service from scratch in a very short time frame required the commitment and combined expertise of a range of UCW Adelaide services including IS, Finance, Executive, and James Glenn, Property Manager, to name a few."

Andrew says this was then backed up by some very hard working staff at the FRC who addressed everything from processes and procedures for ensuring an effective and child focused service to where to purchase office supplies, who liked milk in their coffee and who didn't and back to how best to assist families to reach agreements about the best way to raise their children following separation and divorce. ■

UCW Rural and Remote Cares for Carers

The Community Overnight Respite House provides a respite option for the carers of frail, older people and frail, older people who have dementia.

Introduced this year by the Federal Government, the Community Overnight Respite House provides respite in a holiday home environment, with flexible care to meet the needs of both carer and care recipient over shorter periods of time.

One person who enjoyed a break at a Coffin Bay respite house for 3 days was initially unsure as to whether she would go, but once there she said "to think that I nearly missed out on this. I've never been quite so well looked after".

This respite is available through UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide to carers who live on the Eyre Peninsula. ■

Thanks South Australians!

The annual Christmas Hampers and Toys Appeal was launched on 8th October 2007 by Hon Jane Lomax-Smith, Minister for Education and Children's Services, (pictured right) who packed the first hamper and read 'The Night before Christmas' to children gathered around the Christmas tree.

Adelaide Lightning basketballer (and former Olympian) Jenny Whittle and Redback batsman Ben Cameron added some sporting glamour to the Launch. Our theme this year was sporting goods/toys for teenagers who are too often overlooked.

As ever, the generosity of South Australians helped us to reach our target of \$60,000 enabling the purchase of 1300 hampers through Foodbank SA.



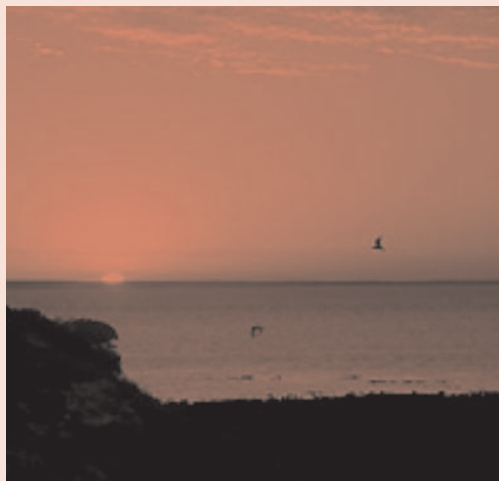
Special thanks to all of our generous donors including AMP Foundation, Portfolio Partners, ING Investment, Pickard Foundation, Macquarie Bank Foundation, ETSA Utilities, Bank SA Staff Charitable Fund, Morialta Trust, Yellow Corporation, CMI Toyota, CMV Foundation, CBA, local businesses and the friends and staff of UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide.

Gifts of thousands of toys were given with the hampers to the delight of many children on Christmas morning. Our thanks go to the wonderful people at Target stores. Pedare Junior Schooling also contributed many beautiful toys.

Together we have shared the true spirit of peace, joy, love and hope of Christmas. ■



Pictured are three of the Annesley girls who happily volunteered to help pack sweets for the hampers.



LIFELINE New Phone System

Lifeline Adelaide has become part of a national call flow system with all other Lifeline phone counselling services in Australia. This means that more calls get answered sooner. For example, if a person calls Lifeline in Adelaide and all the telephone counsellors are busy, the new system will search across Australia to find an available telephone counsellor so no one in need has to wait any longer than necessary. A fantastic innovation. ■

Forsyth Foundation and Geytenbeek Social Enterprise Grants 2007

The 2007 Geytenbeek Social Enterprise and Forsyth Foundation Grants were awarded at an informal presentation ceremony at Pitt Street in November.

Amongst the recipients were The Aboriginal Women's Leadership Group from the Kalparrin Faith Community, Vision Impaired Access from the Royal Society for the Blind, Cross Cultural Competency Training for Schools for the Australian Refugee Association and the "Survivor, Relay for Life" team who are a group of mothers with young children who decided to raise funds for the Cancer Council of South Australia by publishing a recipe book. (pictured)

"Food NOT to Die For" is an "all ages" resource for healthy heating. It has recipes for toddler food, lunch box ideas and family meals from breakfast to dessert. There is also a section to assist you in modifying your favourite recipes too make them healthier. A great gift idea, the book costs \$15.00

and is available from the Cancer Council of SA.

The Aboriginal Women's Leadership Group hopes to provide respite and education for women who are suffering from depression, loss of family, domestic violence and other difficulties. It is also seen as an opportunity for women to come together and learn leadership skills and build self esteem. ■



UCW Adelaide Chair Julie Redman with one of the contributors, Jane Wilson.

MURRAY MUDGE UPGRADE

At a cost of just over \$7 million, the final stage of the Murray Mudge Aged Care facility upgrade was completed in July 2007.

The beautifully refurbished rooms and common areas will accommodate 66 residents.

Manager, Julie Colman, is proud of the commitment of staff to maintaining quality care throughout the refurbishment and that they achieved full accreditation whilst the work was in progress.

The first stage of the upgrade, Seashell Cove, is a state of the art special dementia unit with a model of care called 'Life at the Bay' which strives to maintain the individual lifestyle and

care needs of each resident through a primary care model.

Former Federal Minister for the Ageing, Christopher Pyne MP, declared the completion of works at a grand opening in October 2007. (pictured with CEO Sue Park and Chair Julie Redman). ■



HOME LINK SA

In the late 1990's UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide successfully tendered for a home based accommodation service for the Intellectual Disability Services Council (now Disability SA). The service began with 11 adults with an intellectual disability living with carers. Today, 'Home Link SA', has over 100 registered carers who are contracted to welcome children and adults with a disability into their own home on either

a fulltime, shared care or respite basis.

Our staff recognise the importance of our carers, and accordingly, carers are carefully assessed, provided with opportunities to develop their expertise and supported through difficulties.

If you know anyone who might be interested in joining our carer community have them contact 8150 7200 for an information pack. ■

Lentara *Get Together*

Following the success of the inaugural Magill/Lentara Methodist Children's Home Reunion dinner in 2005, a second reunion was held in October 2007.

The weekend was a huge success with old friendships renewed and new friends made. Guests reminisced and shared their stories.

UCW Adelaide CEO Sue Park attended the functions and said it was a privilege to hear the moving stories of the impact of Lentara on people's lives. "One person described it as the best part of her childhood. A young woman whose mother had lived there said that she believed you had to make the best of the pack of cards life dealt you, and that her mother had been very lucky to have Lentara as a card in her hand," said Sue.

Sue then told a sad story of the practice in the 1950's of separating boys and girls, and of one young boy only being able to look at his sisters through the fence. "It reminded me that we need to be acutely conscious of the impact of our practices on people's lives," she said. ■

Byron Place Christmas Picnic

The annual Byron Place Christmas Picnic was held in the South parklands in Adelaide again this year. The weather was perfect for a game of cricket and football followed by a festive chicken and ham salad lunch.

Byron Place clients had the opportunity to relax and enjoy the sunshine, food and camaraderie.

Friends of Byron Place (pictured) provided a superb meal (as they always do) and it was agreed that the day was a great success. ■



If you want your name added to or removed from the 'UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide Update' mailing list, contact Pam Jones, telephone 8202 5177, or email pam.jones@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au

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