



Media Release

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New Autism Association Centre Expands Services for WA

The Premier of Western Australia will today officially open the Autism Association of Western Australia's new Service Headquarters and multi-disciplinary Early Intervention Centre in Shenton Park.

The new facilities will expand the Association's delivery of services in all areas and enable clinical and training staff to connect with organisations, professionals and families throughout Western Australia.

Autism Association of Western Australia Chief Executive Officer, Joan McKenna Kerr, said the new Service Headquarters and multi-disciplinary Early Intervention Centre was the result of a true partnership between the Autism Association, the community and the Lotterywest.

"Our new Service Centre provides the infrastructure to expand services for both children and adults, and includes a state of the art early intervention centre for newly diagnosed children under the age of six years," Ms McKenna Kerr said.

"It also provides the Association's multi-disciplinary teams with the capacity to work with over 400 pre-school children with Autism each year. In addition to the Early Intervention Centre, the new complex provides facilities to provide a wide range of services to children and adults with Autism.

Ms McKenna Kerr said importantly the new facilities will assist clinical and training staff to connect with organisations, professionals and families in regional Western Australia.

"This is a place where any member of the public can come to find out more about Autism; a place where the achievements of people with Autism will be on show; and facilities where families can come to meet with staff and with each other".

Autism Association of WA Background

Autism is a complex, life-long developmental disability which is neurobiological in origin. Approximately one in every 160 children in Australia is diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

The Autism Association of Western Australia is a large not-for-profit organisation providing services from diagnosis in infancy and throughout the life of person with Autism.

Our mission is to advance the personal development, equality of opportunity and community participation of people with Autism.

The Association is the only specialist Autism organisation in Australia providing the full range of services to meet the needs of people with Autism from early childhood into adulthood; and is the largest specialist organisation in Australia providing services to people with Autism and their families across the spectrum.

The Association also works with a range of service providers in Western Australia and is one of only five agencies worldwide providing specialist programs to assist job-seekers with Autism to find and maintain employment.

Find out more at www.autism.org.au