



MEDIA RELEASE

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New autism headquarters receives funding boost

Lotterywest has announced that the Autism Association of Western Australia is to receive a \$4 million grant to support the development of a new State headquarters and early intervention centre. To be built in Shenton Park, the new facility is expected to be opened in early 2011.

The centre will enable the Association to continue to increase capacity in early intervention services. The Association's early intervention services currently provide support to 273 children through centre based sessions together with home and preschool support.

The announcement of the grant received front page exposure in the West Australian newspaper (Monday August 3) and will provide a significant boost to the funds already raised by the Association over several years towards the new facility.

Association chief executive Joan McKenna Kerr said the rates of autism have increased over the last 15 years. Approximately 300 WA children are diagnosed each year. "The facility will provide an immediate place where parents can come so they don't have to wait for services to be delivered at a time when they most need it," Mrs McKenna Kerr said.

More information:

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