

- For immediate release – 1 October 2009

## **Resthaven Community Services commence in the Riverland**

Resthaven Riverland Community Services have moved into the old TAFE building at 60 East Terrace, Loxton. The building has undergone a facelift and is now being used as an office base from which Resthaven will coordinate individually tailored aged care services for people who live at home. This follows a recent announcement by the Australian Government of additional funding.

'We are thrilled that Resthaven is able to expand our services to the Riverland', explains Resthaven's Chief Executive Officer, Richard Hearn.

'This is a fantastic outcome for older people who prefer to remain at home, offering individualised, flexible assistance with day to day living tasks.'

Cecelia Oxborrow, Community Services Manager, has set up the offices over the past few weeks, ready to commence services soon. She has been recruiting local staff to join the Resthaven Riverland Community Services team, which will grow to around 25 people.

'We will coordinate services from Loxton to offer support for older people who need assistance to continue living in their familiar home environment throughout the Riverland. Having some assistance at home can often make it possible for people who might otherwise have to move, perhaps requiring them to separate from their spouse, to stay together.'

'Our community care services are tailored to each person's specific needs.'

'We offer a range of support services, including community nursing for veterans, ten Extended Aged Care at Home packages, five of which have a dementia specific focus, and ten Community Aged Care Packages for people living at home in the Riverland. The care packages cover a broad spectrum of care needs, from a little support to more intense help to manage the challenging issues associated with increasing frailty and memory loss.'

'For example, our coordinated support may include assistance with household help, such as shopping, cleaning and laundry, personal care, such as showering, grooming and medication management, and lifestyle options, linking to social and educational opportunities. With the Extended Aged Care at Home packages, more intensive nursing care and support may be offered for clients as their care needs increase.'

To be eligible for a care package, an assessment and approval from the Government Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) is required. Individuals, family, friends, general practitioners and allied health professionals can make a referral to the ACAT.

Established in 1935, Resthaven Incorporated is respected for the delivery of high quality, responsive assistance and support for older people and their carers. Resthaven's services extend across metropolitan Adelaide, the Murraylands, Limestone Coast and now in the Riverland.

For more information about local services and job opportunities contact: **Cecelia Oxborrow**, on **0419 837 480**.

For more information about Resthaven Community Services, visit [www.resthaven.asn.au](http://www.resthaven.asn.au) or call **1300 13 66 33**.

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