
Media Release

8 December 2010

Resthaven Port Elliot to become a reality!

'We are thrilled to advise that in today's announcement by the Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, Mark Butler, Resthaven has been successful in our application for aged care places. This means that Resthaven can build a new aged care facility on land purchased last year, at 50 North Terrace, the old Pt Elliot Primary School site', Resthaven Chief Executive Officer, Richard Hearn, said.

'The new places are part of the 2009-10 Aged Care Approvals Round – a competitive assessment process that allocates aged care places to providers who best demonstrate that they can meet the needs of the ageing population in specific regions. Decisions on allocations are made independently by the Department of Health and Ageing.'

'The population planning approach adopted by the Australian Government indicates that the Alexandrina coastal and Victor Harbor regions require additional aged care places to cater for the needs of the population, and to support older people remaining in the area.'

'Prior to making an application for places, we conducted significant consultation and research into the needs of the region, and identified Pt Elliot as an ideal location for future development to offer services for older people. As there is no guarantee of funding, today's announcement is a fantastic outcome.'

'Resthaven has been allocated 92 aged care places – 57 high care and 35 low care.'

'Now that we know we have approved places, we can start work on plans for the site, which we recently cleared. The old transportable school buildings were attracting vandals and were not suitable for updating. The old school house has heritage listing, and will be integrated in the overall plans for the development.'

'We are committed to working and developing strong relationships with the local community. Health care professionals and medical practitioners play a critical role in supporting older people to remain in their local communities.'

Established in 1935, Resthaven Incorporated a not-for-profit aged care community service of the Uniting Church, 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 Adelaide Hills, Murraylands, Limestone Coast and in the Riverland.

At Resthaven's nine residential locations, care and support is provided to 1,000 older people. In addition, in-home care and support is provided for around 7,000 people through a range of Community Services.

ENDS