
Media Release

15 June 2011

Resthaven expands

Resthaven Chief Executive Officer, Richard Hearn, said today, 'Resthaven is currently undertaking several significant redevelopment projects, as well as expanding.'

'On 20 May, our Limestone Coast Community Services celebrated expansion in provision of in-home care and support with the opening of new Community Services offices in Naracoorte.'

'This was followed by the opening and dedication of the redevelopment of Resthaven Paradise by the Moderator of the Uniting Church, SA, Rev Rob Williams, on Friday 10 June.'

Purpose built and opened in time for Christmas in 1979, Resthaven Paradise, at 61 Silkes Road, overlooks the picturesque Torrens Linear Park with a backdrop of the Adelaide Hills. The facility offers independent living, high and low care and Community Services, including a Therapy Centre for older people living in the community to access rehabilitation and therapy.

'Over the past thirty years, there have been many alterations and updates to the Paradise site. However, Resthaven's Board acknowledged that substantial improvements were required to meet future expectations, standards and government guidelines, and committed significant financial resources to self fund this major upgrade at a cost of more than \$20 million.'

'This fine redevelopment is evidence of prudent financial management and highlights the critical importance that accommodation bonds have in successful self-management of capital works that do not attract government funding.'

'Concurrently, another significant project has been undertaken at Resthaven Marion, at 10 Township Road, Marion. This has involved construction of a secure dementia unit and refurbishment of the whole facility. Opened in 1974, Resthaven Marion is our largest site, and was due for a facelift to bring it up to current standards. An official opening will be held in the near future, when final touches are complete.'

'We are also very excited about our new 70 room residential aged care facility in Elizabeth Street, Mount Gambier, which will open in July and provide much needed support and care for older people, as well as create approximately 100 long term local jobs,' Richard said.

'We are grateful for the support of the Mount Gambier Uniting Church, in making the site possible through sale of land adjacent to the church.'

'Resthaven Mount Gambier will bring the number of residential facilities to ten. This will soon increase to eleven, as Resthaven's application in the 2009-10 Aged Care Approvals Round for aged care places in Port Elliot was successful. Resthaven was allocated 92 aged care places – 57 high care and 35 low care - and we will build a new aged care facility on the old Primary School site in the near future.'

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‘Extensive planning and consideration has been undertaken to achieve a site plan that is pleasing to the community and will meet the needs of older people in the area. Local consultation on the plans will occur soon.’

‘We are committed to working and developing strong relationships with the local community.’

‘When undertaking these expansions, we give particular emphasis to ensuring that new staff are familiar with Resthaven’s values and commitment to provision of quality aged care, in making a difference. It is important work.’

Established in 1935, Resthaven Incorporated is a not-for-profit aged care community service of the Uniting Church, respected for the delivery of high quality, responsive care services for older South Australians and their carers.

Resthaven’s residential aged care facilities offer accommodation to more than 1,000 older South Australians. A range of in home community care and support options are offered throughout metropolitan Adelaide, the Adelaide Hills, Murraylands, Riverland and across the Limestone Coast, with more than 7,000 clients benefiting from these services.

Resthaven employs approximately 1,600 staff, who are supported by 450 volunteers.

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