



CARERS VICTORIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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BUDGET FAILS TO DELIVER FOR CARING FAMILIES

While the Victorian Budget passed on Tuesday 4 May 2010 indicates a strong economy, there is very little for caring families to celebrate. The overall growth in funding for care and support services for people with a disability, mental or chronic illness is so low that many caring families will still struggle.

Caring families of children with a disability will be pleased with a significant boost in early childhood and school services. Nevertheless, many of the funding boosts announced across the disability, mental health and aged care sectors are grossly inadequate to meet urgent demand.

“The pressures on caring families are increasing, and this budget will do little to address the unmet need for support services and the critical shortage of affordable and secure housing,” says Maria Bohan, CEO Carers Victoria.

“Take supported accommodation – an additional 20 places brings the total to 269 that the government has committed to; yet there are 1292 people with a disability on the waiting list. Many have ageing parent carers who are increasingly desperate for options.”

“Carers Victoria is disappointed that this government has failed caring families yet again.”

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*Carers Victoria is the statewide voice for family carers,
representing and providing support to carers in the community.*