



MEDIA RELEASE

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Labor to invest in Capacity Building Program for carers

Carers Victoria has received confirmation from Lisa Neville, Minister for Community Services, Mental Health and Senior Victorians, of recurrent funding of \$1 million annually for training and intervention to support caring relationships.

The Capacity Building Program has been operating since April 2008 with the original grant due to cease in December 2011.

In the last year over 5000 Victorian carers were supported through specialised training modules that included themes such as:

- Futures planning for carers of older people with care and support needs
- Futures planning for families of children with disabilities who are entering adulthood
- Transition and planning for residential care
- Caring to the end of life: palliative care
- Transition from caring: new horizons, loss and bereavement

The program also delivered training for services providers about the needs of caring families.

'Carers Victoria is thrilled to receive confirmation that this important program will continue,' said Maria Bohan, CEO of Carers Victoria.

'The program has been extremely successful and effective, meeting well above expected targets and satisfaction measures. The funding guarantee is an acknowledgement of our work over the last three years. It will ensure that we can continue to both support and assist carers through key lifecycle transitions, and influence communities to better support and recognise carers.'

'Carers Victoria welcomes this funding as a sign of the Victorian government's commitment to invest in services for carers. We look forward to further announcements to demonstrate this.'

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