



Media Release

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Funding To Support Services to Children and Adults with Autism

The Autism Association of Western Australia congratulates the Premier and his Government on this landmark initiative to support services to some of the most vulnerable people in our community, including people with Autism and their families.

This State Government Budget represents an unprecedented undertaking to create sustainable services for individuals with Autism, as well as people with disabilities more broadly.

Chief Executive Officer of the Autism Association, Joan McKenna Kerr said the budget would benefit families in need of services and the staff that support them and provide organisations with the capacity to deliver more services to those who need them most.

"This budget initiative is a great acknowledgement by the Premier and his government of the valuable work undertaken by community organisations such as the Autism Association and the invaluable work of our dedicated staff." said Ms McKenna Kerr.

"The funding announced today will assist us to provide the continuity of care that is so important to families and so important in the education and support of individuals with Autism.

"It will assist the disability sector to retain great staff and to stem the tide of brain drain to better paying jobs.

"The Premier has listened to the community and has given us an unprecedented boost so that we can work to make a better life for West Australians with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families".

Autism Association of WA Background

Autism is a complex, life-long developmental disability which is neurobiological in origin. Approximately one in every 160 children in Australia is diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

The Autism Association of Western Australia is a large not-for-profit organisation providing services from diagnosis in infancy and throughout the life of person with Autism.

Our mission is to advance the personal development, equality of opportunity and community participation of people with Autism.

The Association is the only specialist Autism organisation in Australia providing the full range of services to meet the needs of people with Autism from early childhood into adulthood; and is the second largest specialist organisation providing services to people with Autism and their families in Australia.

The Association also works with a range of service providers in Western Australia and is one of only five agencies worldwide providing specialist programs to assist job-seekers with Autism to find and maintain employment.

Find out more at www.autism.org.au

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