



# DADHC Metro South Stronger Together Report

January 2008

**stronger together** ::

A new direction for disability services in NSW :: 2006–2016



New South Wales  
Government



Department  
of Ageing,  
Disability &  
Home Care

# METRO SOUTH STRONGER TOGETHER REPORT

January 2008

*Stronger Together: A new direction for disability services in NSW 2006-2016* is a 10 year plan delivered by the Department and backed by \$1.3 billion in funding.

This is a progress report on how Stronger Together has been implemented in the DADHC Metro South region.

## Contents

	<b>Page</b>
1 Accommodation Support Services .....	1
2 Support co-ordination for Older Parent Carers .....	1
3 Older Parents Carer Program – Flexible Day Options .....	2
4 Centre Based Respite .....	2
5 Flexible Respite .....	3
6 Leaving Care Program .....	3
7 Extending Early Childhood Interventions Initiative / Other Early Intervention .....	4
8 Therapy / Transition to School .....	4
9 Intensive Family Support Program .....	5
10 Other Family Support .....	5
11 Post School Programs .....	5
12 In-Home Support .....	5
13 Intentional Communities .....	6
14 On-line Resources for Families .....	6
15 New Support Networks .....	6
Appendix A – Breakdown by Sth West Sydney LPA .....	7
Appendix B – Breakdown by Inner West Sydney LPA .....	9
Appendix C – Breakdown by Sth East Sydney LPA .....	11

## METRO SOUTH STRONGER TOGETHER REPORT

### 1. ACCOMMODATION

#### Whole Region

Seven new group homes for 32 people. 5 group homes for 22 people to be operated by non-government organisations following a tender which closed in June, and 2 group homes for 10 people directly operated by DADHC.

Successful non-government organisations now engaged in planning and establishment of new homes as follows:

- Five new group homes to be established in **South West Sydney** for adults and young people with an intellectual disability or multiple disabilities where intellectual disability is also present:
  - \$500,000 to Sylvanvale Disability Services for a new five person group home model for challenging behaviours in the Camden LGA.
  - \$500,000 to Sylvanvale Disability Services for a new five person group home model for complex support needs in the Camden LGA.
  - \$450,000 to Ability Options Ltd for a new four person group home model for complex support needs in the Camden LGA.
  - \$375,000 to Ability Options Ltd for a new three person group home model for complex support needs in the Camden LGA (+ further funding to accommodate a 4<sup>th</sup> person).
  - In addition to the above DADHC will directly operate a group home for 5 clients with very complex support needs in Camden LGA.
- In Marrickville LGA in **Inner West Sydney** \$600,000 to Ability Options Ltd for a new three person group home model for clients with very complex support needs and very challenging behaviours
- In **South East Sydney** DADHC will directly operate one group home in Mortdale for 5 people with complex needs.

### 2. PROVISION OF SUPPORT COORDINATION FOR OLDER PARENT CARERS

#### Whole Region

An open tender was held for facilitating support and social networks for older parent carers. A total of up to \$610,000 per service is available at an overall package of \$5,000 per family.

- In **South West Sydney**, Sydney Anglican Home Mission was the successful tenderer for two services, one of which is a CALD-specific service.
- In **Inner West Sydney**, Sydney Anglican Home Mission was again the successful tenderer.
- In **South East Sydney** Carer's NSW Inc was the successful tenderer.

### 3. OLDER PARENTS CARER PROGRAM – FLEXIBLE DAY OPTIONS

#### Whole Region

Overall a total of \$1,042,760 has been allocated for 34 places for older parent carers across Met South for 2007/08 and 2008/09.

Broken down by LPA this is as follows:

- In **South West Sydney**, a total of \$199,390 in funding was allocated for 13 flexible day option places for older parents carers via open tender:
  - Seven places were allocated to House With No Steps (\$109,245)
  - Six places were allocated to Interchange Wingecarribee (\$90,145).
- In **Inner West Sydney**, a total of \$122,400 in funding was allocated for 8 flexible day option places for older parents carers via open tender:
  - Eight places were allocated to House With No Steps (\$122,400)
- In **South East Sydney**, a total of \$199,390 in funding was allocated for 13 flexible day option places for older parents carers via open tender:
  - Seven places were allocated to House With No Steps (\$109,245)
  - Six places were allocated to St George and Sutherland Community College (\$90,145).

### 4. CENTRE BASED RESPITE

#### Whole Region

- Open tender for 81 new centre-based respite places in the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee LGAs in **South West Sydney** – 41 places for children and young people, and 40 places for adults. The Disability Trust was the successful tenderer and will receive \$602,000, plus a further \$50,000 as a transport allocation and \$50,000 for property rental.
- In **Inner West LPA** Centacare granted \$337,967 (on top of existing funding) to convert Norma Parker House in Lakemba from a part-time to a full-time respite service. The service will now provide a minimum of 25 days respite to 58 clients per year.
- In **South East Sydney** an open tender was held for a full time respite centre for children and young people which closed in December 2007. The Sunnyfield Association was the successful applicant and DADHC is now working with Sunnyfield to establish the respite centre, which will be based in Caringbah. The service will provide a minimum of 25 days respite to 58 clients per year from the LGAs of Sutherland, Hurstville, Kogarah and Rockdale.

## 5. FLEXIBLE RESPITE

### (Relates only to the Inner West)

Allocation of \$201,422 per annum has been provided to Sunnyfield for the provision of 26 flexible respite packages for children and young people in the Inner West.

Allocation of \$100,711 per annum to ELLA for provision of 13 flexible respite packages for adults in the Inner West.

## 6. LEAVING CARE PROGRAM

### Whole Region

There are three parts to this Program:

1. Establishment of five new group homes to be operated by DADHC for 25 people in this target group;
2. Alternative Family Placements; and
3. Drop-in Support.

Three of the 5 group homes will be in the Campbelltown LGA in **South West Sydney**. Location of the other two houses is to be confirmed but is likely to be in South East Sydney LPA.

An open tender was held to seek eligible providers for Alternate Family Placements and Drop-in support services to young people leaving the care of the DOCS Minister.

- The approved providers in **South West Sydney** are:
  - For Alternate Family Placements (5 providers) – Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd, and UnitingCare Burnside.
  - For Drop-in Support Service – (8 providers) Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd, The Junction Works, The Sunnyfield Association, UnitingCare Burnside, and House With No Steps.
- Approved providers in **Inner West Sydney** are:
  - For Alternate Family Placements – (4 providers) Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, and Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd.
  - For Drop-in Support Service – (6 providers) Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd, The Sunnyfield Association, and House With No Steps
- Approved providers in **South East Sydney** are:
  - For Alternate Family Placements – (2 Providers) Life Without Barriers and Lifestyle Solutions.

- For Drop-in Support Service – (4 providers) Life Without Barriers, Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd, The Sunnyfield Association, and House With No Steps.

## **7. EXTENDING EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTIONS INITIATIVE**

### **Whole Region**

One-off enhancing capacity grants amounting to \$733,263 for equipment and/or technology, program resources and/or tools, and practice improvement.

- Total of \$378,414 for **South West Sydney** to Centacare Catholic Community Services, Fairfield City Council, KU Children's Services, Learning Links, Mission Australia and the Spastic Centre.
- Total of \$156,333 for **South East Sydney** to KU Children's Services, Learning Links and Sylvanvale.
- Total of \$271,474 for **Inner West Sydney** to Catholic Centre for Hearing Impaired Children, Eurella, Koorana and Pathways.
- Two tenders with a closing date of 21 December 2007 are now advertised on the website:
  1. Extending Services (Tender 07.38) - \$4m in funding over 4 years to extend services to a new priority location or specific group or need.
  2. Developing Innovative Service models and Practices (Tender 07.56) - \$4m in funding over 4 years to trial innovations.
- It is not yet known how this funding in the two tenders will be allocated by region or LPA.

### **7 (a) Other Early Intervention Funding**

- \$140,268 in non-recurrent funding was also provided to Early Intervention services that pay under the Teachers Award, and therefore did not receive the SACS Award supplement, to assist with viability.
- \$200,000 non-recurrent funding granted to Early Intervention organisations and children's services for the purchase of equipment and toys.

## **8. THERAPY PLACES (TRANSITION TO SCHOOL)**

### **Whole region**

In 06/07 and 07/08 a Transition to School therapy project commenced which is benefiting 139 pre-school age children. A breakdown by LPA is as follows:

- **South West Sydney** - (Toybox servicing 22 children in Wingecarribee, and KU MacArthur servicing 35 in Macarthur):

- **Inner West** – Pathways servicing 35 children:
- **South East Sydney** – 47 Transition to School therapy places (Lifestart servicing 25 children in Eastern Sydney, and The Spastic Centre servicing 22 children in Sutherland & St George).
- A tender for recurrent funding for this project was advertised on 3 December 2007 and will close on 14 January 2008.

## **9. INTENSIVE FAMILY SUPPORTS**

Intensive Family Support assists families with a child with a disability through provision of intensive in-home supports

- In Inner West Centacare are operating this service;
- In SES the Spastic Centre are operating this service;
- In SWS Burnside are operating this service
- Also, in SWS Burnside and the Spastic Centre are jointly operating an Intensive Family Support Service specifically for clients from CALD communities.

A tender closing 21 December has been advertised for an Intensive Family Support Service specifically for Aboriginal families in South West Sydney with a child with a disability

## **10. OTHER FAMILY SUPPORT**

Increase in family support programs.

- 5 positions for Casework Consultants (Children and Young People) –
  - 1 of these specifically identified for CALD communities and
  - 1 identified Aboriginal position.
- Family Assistance Fund established to help families buy one-off items they cannot get in other ways.

## **11. POST SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

- In 2007 around 230 school leavers are registering for Post School programs in the Region.
- Community Participation Programs increased from three days support per week to four, and to five days for people with very high support needs.

## **12. IN-HOME SUPPORT**

- The Department is working in partnership with the Department of Housing, Office of Community Housing and non-Government housing and support providers to support people to maintain tenancies, develop living skills and to live to their maximum potential.

- 2007/08 - 10 people in Metro South will benefit from this program with further places expected in following years.
- 22 new Attendant Care packages were allocated to Metro South in 2006/07. More expected in the new financial year.

### **13. INTENTIONAL COMMUNITIES EOI**

- Expressions of Interest closed on 2 November 2007 for an innovative accommodation model - an 'Intentional Community'.
- This model involves the person with a disability, their families and others in decision making, management and operation of accommodation and support arrangements over the long term. It can also create a pathway for home ownership or long term tenancy.
- Outcomes of the tender expected to be announced shortly.

### **14 ON-LINE RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES**

A comprehensive new resource to support parents of children with a disability is now available on the Raising Children website –

[www.raisingchildren.net.au/disabilities](http://www.raisingchildren.net.au/disabilities)

- Addresses common concerns such as:
  - parents' reactions to a disability diagnosis
  - helping siblings of a child with a disability
  - disability rights and the law
  - working with professionals and accessing services/supports
  - choosing childcare and a school
  - routines, play, health and fitness for children with a disability
  - also includes a disability dictionary, film clips of families sharing their experiences and forums for families to communicate with each other.

### **15. NEW SUPPORT NETWORKS**

A tender closed on 31 August 2007 for new Support Networks. There are seven demonstration projects across NSW being established. Funding is for three years at \$100,000 per year and the initiative will establish innovative support networks for three groups: young people with disabilities; siblings; and parents.

## APPENDIX A – Stronger Together in South West Sydney

### 1. ACCOMMODATION

- Five new group homes to be established in **South West Sydney** for adults and young people with an intellectual disability or multiple disabilities where intellectual disability is also present:
  - \$500,000 to Sylvanvale Disability Services for a new five person group home model for challenging behaviours in the Camden LGA.
  - \$500,000 to Sylvanvale Disability Services for a new five person group home model for complex support needs in the Camden LGA.
  - \$450,000 to Ability Options Ltd for a new four person group home model for complex support needs in the Camden LGA.
  - \$375,000 to Ability Options Ltd for a new three person group home model for complex support needs in the Camden LGA (+ further funding to accommodate a 4<sup>th</sup> person).
  - In addition to the above DADHC will directly operate a group home for 5 clients with very complex support needs in Camden LGA.

### 2. PROVISION OF SUPPORT COORDINATION FOR OLDER PARENT CARERS

An open tender was held for facilitating support and social networks for older parent carers. A total of up to \$610,000 per service is available at an overall package of \$5,000 per family. In **South West Sydney**, Sydney Anglican Home Mission was the successful tenderer for two services, one of which is a CALD-specific service.

### 3. OLDER PARENTS CARER PROGRAM – FLEXIBLE DAY OPTIONS

**Overall a total of \$1,042,760 has been allocated for 34 places for older parent carers across Met South for 2007/08 and 2008/09.**

In **South West Sydney**, a total of \$199,390 in funding was allocated for 13 flexible day option places for older parents carers via open tender:

- Seven places were allocated to House With No Steps (\$109,245)
- Six places were allocated to Interchange Wingecarribee (\$90,145).

### 4. CENTRE BASED RESPITE

- Open tender for 81 new centre-based respite places in the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee LGAs in **South West Sydney** – 41 places for children and young people, and 40 places for adults. The Disability Trust was the successful tenderer and will receive \$602,000, plus a further \$50,000 as a transport allocation and \$50,000 for property rental.

## 5. LEAVING CARE PROGRAM

There are three parts to this Program:

1. Establishment of five new group homes to be operated by DADHC for 25 people in this target group;
2. Alternative Family Placements; and
3. Drop-in Support.

Three of the 5 group homes will be in the Campbelltown LGA in **South West Sydney**.

An open tender was held to seek eligible providers for Alternate Family Placements and Drop-in support services to young people leaving the care of the DOCS Minister.

- The approved providers in **South West Sydney** are:
  - For Alternate Family Placements (5 providers) – Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd, and UnitingCare Burnside.
  - For Drop-in Support Service – (8 providers) Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd, The Junction Works, The Sunnyfield Association, UnitingCare Burnside, and House With No Steps.

## 6. EXTENDING EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTIONS INITIATIVE

One-off enhancing capacity grants amounting to \$733,263 for equipment and/or technology, program resources and/or tools, and practice improvement.

Total of \$378,414 for **South West Sydney** to Centacare Catholic Community Services, Fairfield City Council, KU Children's Services, Learning Links, Mission Australia and the Spastic Centre.

## 7. THERAPY PLACES (TRANSITION TO SCHOOL)

In 06/07 and 07/08 a Transition to School therapy project commenced which is benefiting 139 pre-school age children:

**South West Sydney** - (Toybox servicing 22 children in Wingecarribee, and KU MacArthur servicing 35 in Macarthur).

## 8. INTENSIVE FAMILY SUPPORTS

Intensive Family Support assists families with a child with a disability through provision of intensive in-home supports

- In SWS Burnside are operating this service
- Also, in SWS Burnside and the Spastic Centre are jointly operating an Intensive Family Support Service specifically for clients from CALD communities.

A tender closing 21 December has been advertised for an Intensive Family Support Service specifically for Aboriginal families in South West Sydney with a child with a disability.

## **APPENDIX B – Stronger Together in Inner West Sydney**

### **1. ACCOMMODATION**

In Marrickville LGA in **Inner West Sydney** \$600,000 to Ability Options Ltd for a new three person group home model for clients with very complex support needs and very challenging behaviours.

### **2. PROVISION OF SUPPORT COORDINATION FOR OLDER PARENT CARERS**

An open tender was held for facilitating support and social networks for older parent carers. A total of up to \$610,000 per service is available at an overall package of \$5,000 per family.

- In **Inner West Sydney**, Sydney Anglican Home Mission was again the successful tenderer.

### **3. OLDER PARENTS CARER PROGRAM – FLEXIBLE DAY OPTIONS**

**Overall a total of \$1,042,760 has been allocated for 34 places for older parent carers across Met South for 2007/08 and 2008/09.**

In **Inner West Sydney**, a total of \$122,400 in funding was allocated to House With No Steps for 8 flexible day option places for older parents carers via open tender.

### **4. CENTRE BASED & FLEXIBLE RESPITE**

- In **Inner West LPA** Centacare granted \$337,967 (on top of existing funding) to covert Norma Parker House in Lakemba from a part-time to a full-time respite service.

The service will now provide a minimum of 25 days respite to 58 clients per year.

- Allocation of \$201,422 per annum has been provided to Sunnyfield for the provision of 26 flexible respite packages for children and young people in the inner West.
- Allocation of \$100,711 per annum to ELLA for provision of 13 flexible respite packages for adults in the inner West.

### **5. LEAVING CARE PROGRAM**

An open tender was held to seek eligible providers for Alternate Family Placements and Drop-in support services to young people leaving the care of the DOCS Minister.

- Approved providers in **Inner West Sydney** are:
  - For Alternate Family Placements – (4 providers) Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, and Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd.

- For Drop-in Support Service – (6 providers) Ability Options Ltd, Achieve Foundation Ltd, Life Without Barriers, Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd, The Sunnyfield Association, and House With No Steps.

## **6. EXTENDING EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTIONS INITIATIVE**

One-off enhancing capacity grants amounting to \$733,263 for equipment and/or technology, program resources and/or tools, and practice improvement.

- Total of \$271,474 for **Inner West Sydney** to Catholic Centre for Hearing Impaired Children, Eurella, Koorana and Pathways.

## **7. THERAPY PLACES (TRANSITION TO SCHOOL)**

In 06/07 and 07/08 a Transition to School therapy project commenced which is benefiting 139 pre-school age children:

- **Inner West** – Pathways servicing 35 children:

## **8. INTENSIVE FAMILY SUPPORTS**

Intensive Family Support assists families with a child with a disability through provision of intensive in-home supports:

- In **Inner West** Centacare is operating this service.

## **APPENDIX C – Stronger Together in South East Sydney**

### **1. ACCOMMODATION**

In **South East Sydney** DADHC will directly operate one group home in Mortdale for 5 people with complex needs.

### **2. PROVISION OF SUPPORT COORDINATION FOR OLDER PARENT CARERS**

An open tender was held for facilitating support and social networks for older parent carers. A total of up to \$610,000 per service is available at an overall package of \$5,000 per family.

- In **South East Sydney** Carer's NSW Inc was the successful tenderer.

### **3. OLDER PARENTS CARER PROGRAM – FLEXIBLE DAY OPTIONS**

**Overall a total of \$1,042,760 has been allocated for 34 places for older parent carers across Met South for 2007/08 and 2008/09.**

In **South East Sydney**, a total of \$199,390 in funding was allocated for 13 flexible day option places for older parents carers via open tender:

- Seven places were allocated to House With No Steps (\$109,245)
- Six places were allocated to St George and Sutherland Community College (\$90,145).

### **4. CENTRE BASED RESPITE**

In **South East Sydney** an open tender was held for a full time respite centre for children and young people which closed in December 2007.

The Sunnyfield Association was the successful applicant and DADHC is now working with Sunnyfield to establish the respite centre, which will be based in Caringbah.

The service will provide a minimum of 25 days respite to 58 clients per year from the LGAs of Sutherland, Hurstville, Kogarah and Rockdale.

### **5. LEAVING CARE PROGRAM**

An open tender was held to seek eligible providers for Alternate Family Placements and Drop-in support services to young people leaving the care of the DOCS Minister.

In **South East Sydney**, a total of \$199,390 in funding was allocated for 13 flexible day option places for older parents carers via open tender:

- Seven places were allocated to House With No Steps (\$109,245)
- Six places were allocated to St George and Sutherland Community College (\$90,145).

## **6. EXTENDING EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTIONS INITIATIVE**

One-off enhancing capacity grants amounting to \$733,263 for equipment and/or technology, program resources and/or tools, and practice improvement.

- Total of \$156,333 for **South East Sydney** to KU Children's Services, Learning Links and Sylvanvale.

## **7. THERAPY PLACES (TRANSITION TO SCHOOL)**

In 06/07 and 07/08 a Transition to School therapy project commenced which is benefiting 139 pre-school age children:

- **South East Sydney** – 47 Transition to School therapy places (Lifestart servicing 25 children in Eastern Sydney, and The Spastic Centre servicing 22 children in Sutherland & St George).

## **8. INTENSIVE FAMILY SUPPORTS**

Intensive Family Support assists families with a child with a disability through provision of intensive in-home supports:

- In **South East Sydney** the Spastic Centre is operating this service.