



MEDIA RELEASE

Amanda Rishworth MP

Federal Member for Kingston

15 February 2011

Over \$5, 000 to Support Aldinga Community Shed

Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Member for Kingston welcomed the announcement by Minister for Indigenous Health the Hon Warren Snowdon MP today that Aldinga Community Shed will receive \$5, 385 in funding under Round One of the Australian Government's *Men's Shed Development Program*.

Ms Rishworth said "Aldinga Community Shed plays a significant role in contributing to the physical and mental wellbeing of local residents by providing an opportunity for men's groups to meet and stay connected with their local community in a relaxed environment."

Ms Rishworth said that isolation, loneliness and depression are major health issues for many Australian men, which is compounded by a culture of not talking about feelings or emotions and not taking as active an interest in their own health and wellbeing as they should.

Ms Rishworth said that the Aldinga Community Shed plays a significant role in reducing these problems by connecting men with the community and each other in a relaxed environment.

Ms Rishworth said "I am delighted that this Australian Government grant will help Aldinga Community Shed to provide a storage shed and shelving to house wood, craft, mosaics and other projects the community has made."

The Australian Government is providing \$750,000 over three years through the Australian Men's Shed Association to provide financial assistance to eligible men's sheds across the country.

The funding is part of the \$16.7 million committed by the Australian Government to improve male health under the National Male Health Policy. The Policy, which was released in May 2010, provides a framework for improving the health of all males and achieving equal health outcomes, particularly for groups of males at risk of poor health.

More funding will be made available in the second round of the *Men's Shed Development Program* which will open in late February 2011. For information on how to apply, please see: www.mensshed.org