



**Amanda Rishworth MP**  
Member for Kingston

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday 30 October 2009

**Support for families in Christies Beach and Noarlunga**

The Member for Kingston Amanda Rishworth today welcomed a new Children and Family Centre for the Christies Beach/Noarlunga area.

The Minister for Early Childhood Education and Child Care Kate Ellis and the SA Minister for Early Childhood Development Jay Weatherill made the announcement today.

The Federal Government, in partnership with the South Australian Government, is investing \$25.22 million over six years building centres at Christies Beach/Noarlunga, Whyalla and Ceduna.

“Children are the most precious resource our society has and the Rudd Government is investing heavily in building a better future for our kids,” Ms Rishworth said.

“The first few years of a child’s life are vital to their future health, education and social development. Early education and care is fundamental to kids getting a good start.”

The centres target the needs of Aboriginal families and their young children, but all families will be able to use the service.

“We want to close the gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people and that starts with giving Aboriginal children a brighter future,” Ms Rishworth said.

The Christies Beach/Noarlunga Children and Family Centre will open in 2011 and bring together services to help children and their families develop in terms of health, education and social development.

Christies Beach/Noarlunga has a growing number of Indigenous children aged under five and it was largely on that basis that the area was chosen as a location for a new Children and Family Centre.

The South Australian Government will lead the consultation process, talking to the community about the specific site in the Christies Beach/Noarlunga area and what types of services local people would like to see provided.

35 Children and Family Centres will be built across Australia as part of the \$564 million Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership Agreement between the Australian Government and States and Territories.

For more information visit [www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood](http://www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood) or call 1300 363 079.

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