



MEDIA RELEASE

Amanda Rishworth MP Federal Member for Kingston

25 May 2011

\$1, 296, 000 for Community Mental Health Services in Southern Adelaide

Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Member for Kingston has welcomed the announcement that a further **\$1, 296, 000** will be invested in mental health services in Southern Adelaide.

Ms Rishworth said “I am delighted that the **Mental Illness Fellowship of South Australia Incorporated** will receive an extension of \$1, 296, 000 funding to continue providing assistance for the next three years to people in our community whose lives are severely affected by mental illness.

“The Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMs) program provides vital services to our community by delivering one-on-one practical support for people in our community whose ability to manage their daily lives and live independently is limited by mental illness.

“This funding extension recognises the invaluable support the PHaMs program provides to people with severe mental illness, their families and carers in our local community.”

Ms Rishworth said that this service is one of 79 community mental health services across the country to have their funding extended for a further three years.

The renewed funding is in addition to the Gillard Government’s \$269.3 million boost for community mental health services announced in this year’s Budget, part of a total commitment of \$2.2 billion over five years for mental health services.

Ms Rishworth said “Funding for community mental health announced in the Budget will help to employ 425 new personal helpers and mentors, like those employed by the Mental Illness Fellowship of South Australia at the Reynella site, to work one-on-one with people with mental illness across Australia.

“I welcome the Australian Government’s continued commitment to Southern Adelaide in delivering much-needed community mental health services for our community.”