

# Media Release

Tuesday, January 08, 2008



corporate office  
81 Cowper Street  
Footscray Victoria 3011  
[www.annecto.org.au](http://www.annecto.org.au)

## Major funding boost for community hub

Yarraville community hub David House, **annecto- the people network's** community facility for people with a disability has been awarded a \$600,000 Victorian Government Capital Redevelopment Facility Initiative Grant. The funding will help David House to create a multi-purpose community facility with spaces suitable for activities including adult education, woodwork, community kitchen, community garden, IT, multi media and arts rooms, and meeting areas for community groups. The redevelopment will be staged to minimise disruption and this grant from the Victorian Government is an important step towards raising the funds to achieve this dream.

The facility has been operating as a community facility for people with a disability in the West for more than 50 years and is now part of **annecto** a not-for profit organisation, which aims to create opportunities and choices for people with a disability. To closely align with the proposals put forward in the Victorian State Disability Plan 2002-2012, **annecto** and David House work closely with families, individuals and carers to create person-centred planning for the people supported at the centre. The building redevelopment concept, designed by local architect Geoff Crosby aims to support the development of new service delivery approaches which will provide individuals with social and community participation, and better partnerships with local services including employment opportunities and access to the facility by local community and education groups.

**annecto's** CEO Estelle Fyffe believes the redeveloped centre will provide an up-to-date multi-purpose facility that will continue to expand the individual and family support that has been a feature over the years.

'Our vision includes working in partnership with the Maribyrnong City Council and the State Government and other organisations to create a community hub with pathways for people with a disability into education, employment and community involvement. We are delighted with the support of the Department of Human Services, Disability Services, through this grant, which is a major step towards our dream', she said.

Hundreds of people have been assisted over the years by the centre, which currently supports more than 300 individuals with a disability, ranging in age from school leavers to over 50's. Current activities at David House focus on learning, social links, friendships and a sense of belonging and community involvement. Activity streams currently offered include personal development, education and training, health and wellbeing, environment, multi media, arts, leisure and carer support.

**annecto – the people network** is an independent, not for profit association located in the Northern, Eastern and Western Metropolitan areas of Melbourne, Grampians region and the Loddon Mallee region, and is committed to increasing opportunities and choices in the community for people with a disability, older persons and their carers, and to realising a more inclusive society.

**Pic caption: Footscray MP Marsha Thomson (left) with annecto CEO Estelle Fyffe and Mayor Michelle McDonald**

---

Media enquiries: [annecto-the people network](http://annecto-thepeoplenetwork.com.au) [www.annecto.org.au](http://www.annecto.org.au)  
Di Erlichman, Marketing and Communications, (03) 8387 0819  
0437 075 633 [di.erlichman@annecto.org.au](mailto:di.erlichman@annecto.org.au)