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To All Department of Health and Human Services Funded Community Sector Organisations

**Subject: Department of Health and Human Services
Consultations for the Community Sector Reform Implementation**

Since the launch of the *Office for the Community Sector Strategic Plan 2008-2010* in October 2008, the Office for the Community Sector has made considerable progress towards two of the important strategic goals - in the areas of Quality & Safety and Integrated Finance and Performance. After an initial development period for both frameworks and extensive consultations with the community sector and Operational Units within the Department of Health and Human Services, the final 'Integrated Finance and Performance Framework' and 'Community Sector Quality and Safety Standards Framework (2009-2012) – a Business Case' are now available for consultation.

The next phase is the implementation process. While the Quality and Safety and Finance and Performance Frameworks were developed concurrently, it has become apparent that there is a high degree of overlap and alignment with the two frameworks. It is envisaged that the implementation will be an integrated and transitional process. This means it will be staged over a period of time with ongoing support to assist organisations meet their requirements.

Again we call on the community sector to play an important active role in developing and finalising the implementation strategy. There are a number of avenues for you to participate and these are outlined below.

During the consultation period, the Office for the Community Sector will also hold initial discussions with stakeholders regarding the development of a partnership framework with the community sector. The development of this partnership framework is another important goal outlined in the Office for the Community Sector Strategic Plan and will underpin the Quality and Safety and Finance & Performance frameworks. The partnership agreement will culminate in an agreed vision and principles for the community sector and Department of Health and Human Services working together to achieve our goals.

The consultation process will consist of the following:

1 Email: you may send your comments by email to desmond.graham@dhhs.tas.gov.au – clearly label your submission in the 'subject' line of your email.

2 Post:

Fax:

You may post your comments to:

Fax number (03) 6233 3545

Community Sector Reform Implementation
Consultation
Office for the Community Sector
Plaza Level, Block I
188 Collins Street
HOBART TAS 7000

3 Attend a Forum:

Burnie:

Tuesday, 7 April 2009

1.00pm – 3.00pm

Meeting Room,
Mental Health Services.
112 Wilson Street,
BURNIE TAS 7320

Please RSVP by Friday, 3 April 2009

Launceston:

Wednesday, 8 April 2009

1.00pm – 3.00pm

Chancellor Room 3
Hotel Grand Chancellor
29 Cameron Street
LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Please RSVP by Friday, 3 April 2009

Bellerive:

Thursday, 16 April 2009

10.00am – 12.00pm

Marina Room
Bellerive Yacht Club
64 Cambridge Road
BELLERIVE TAS 7018

Please RSVP by Friday, 10 April 2009

Hobart:

Friday, 17 April 2009

10.00am – 12.00pm

Jarrah Room
Bahai Centre of Learning
1 Tasman Highway
HOBART TAS 7000

Please RSVP by Friday, 10 April 2009

All RSVPs to Sue Eberhardt on (03) 6233 4746 or email sue.eberhardt@dhhs.tas.gov.au

4 Peak Meetings: All Peak Organisations have been invited to provide feedback to the Office for the Community Sector regarding the Frameworks and implementation issues. You are welcome to communicate with us using that network.

5 Individual Meetings: if required and time permitting, the Office for the Community Sector will meet with you or your organisation in person. Please liaise with Sue Eberhardt on (03) 6233 4746 to check availability.

This 'Letter to Stakeholders' and copies of the 'Integrated Finance and Performance Framework (February 2009)', 'Integrated Finance and Performance Framework Fact Sheet', 'Community Sector Quality and Safety Standards Framework (2009-2012) – a Business Case' and 'Quality and Safety Presentation (March 2009)' are available to download on the communityExpress website (www.communityexpress.dhhs.tas.gov.au/home). Also available on the communityExpress website is the Office for the Community Sector Strategic Plan 2008-2010.

It is important that you provide us with your feedback by **close of business on Thursday, 30 April 2009.**

This is an exciting time for both the Department of Health and Human Services and the community sector as we move towards our common goal of delivering integrated and quality services to all Tasmanians in the future. I encourage you to take this opportunity to engage with the Agency, through the Office for the Community Sector, to ensure that these reforms are successfully implemented. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Associate Professor Des Graham, Director on (03) 6233 8524 or Robert Gavin in his absence on (03) 6233 8512.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Roberts". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

David Roberts
Secretary

25 March 2009