



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

---

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

---

Monday 20 May 2013

### **\$9.7 MILLION BOOST TO SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY**

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell announced today the NSW Government will invest \$9.7 million in new state-of-the-art facilities for 26 people with disability in the Manning Valley.

Mr O'Farrell made the announcement at Dundaloo Support Services in Taree, where he was joined by Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner, Minister for Disability Services Andrew Constance and Myall Lakes MP Stephen Bromhead.

"Today's announcement of \$9.7 million recognises the NSW Government's commitment to expanding and improving supported accommodation for people with disability in the Manning Valley," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The project will see five new state-of-the-art homes built for 26 people with disability - two at Taree, two at Old Bar and the fifth property in the Wingham area," he said.

"This year we're investing more than \$148 million in disability capital projects across the state, delivering state-of-the-art facilities for some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

"We're determined to ensure people with disability get the care and support they need to live full productive lives, and that's exactly what this project will achieve.

"NSW was the first state to reach an agreement with the Commonwealth allowing for the full roll-out of a National Disability Insurance Scheme in NSW by July 2018.

"That agreement provides peace of mind to people with disability, their families and carers, and to the Australians who will unexpectedly face misfortune in the future."

Construction of the five new homes in the Manning Valley will begin over the next year, with the project to be completed by April 2015.

"This is a government that stands up for the regions, and it's great to be partnering with an organisation like Dundaloo which has a proud history of providing services in the local community," Mr Stoner said.

“Demand for disability services is growing by about 10 per cent a year, so it’s vital we continue to build the infrastructure to meet the needs of people with disability, particularly those in regional NSW,” he said.

“Stephen Bromhead has been fighting for improvements to disability services in his area and the funding announced today is a direct result of his advocacy.”

The NSW Government will work closely with Dundaloo and the 26 residents to ensure their individual support needs are met as part of the development.

“The homes will have a contemporary design, be fully accessible, with options for people to live in groups of two or three in villa style accommodation, or in five bed group homes,” Mr Constance said.

“But a project like this isn’t just about the bricks and mortar. It’s about ensuring the supports are in place to empower people with disability to be independent and socially active members of their community,” he said.

Mr Bromhead congratulated Dundaloo on celebrating its 60th anniversary last month and for its commitment to improving the lives of people with disability in the local community.

“It’s great to be here to announce this project at such a significant milestone in the history of Dundaloo,” Mr Bromhead said.

“This is a massive development for the region and I look forward to seeing it come to fruition over the next few years,” he said.

Dundaloo Support Services is a non-profit organisation and provides accommodation and individualised support to people on the Mid North Coast of NSW, working within the Greater Taree, Great Lakes and Gloucester local areas.

For more information on the organisation visit: [www.dundaloofoundation.org.au](http://www.dundaloofoundation.org.au)