

**\*\*\*MEDIA RELEASE\*\*\***  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Helping People Help Themselves

Monday 21 July 2008

**MINDA TO EXPAND SERVICES IN RESPONSE TO UNMET ACCOMMODATION NEED**

Minda today announced it will open additional places for people on the Urgent Accommodation Waiting List with an intellectual disability over the next two years.

The expansion of Minda's community accommodation will facilitate the placement of 31 clients on the Urgent Accommodation List (UAWL), into accommodation. Significantly, this means that Minda will increase its accommodation capacity by 11 placements.

"Minda plans to utilise funding from the State Government, and its own resources, to build and operate new accommodation. The organisation is thrilled at the opportunity to assist families and clients in urgent need," said Minda President, Roy Arnold.

Earlier this year, four community homes were opened by the Minister for Families & Communities and Minister for Disability, Mr Jay Weatherill. This saw 17 individuals successfully move into community accommodation, with 10 from the UAWL.

"There is a huge demand for additional accommodation. These services give people much needed independence and an opportunity to become part of a community of their choice," said Phil Martin, Minda General Manager, Strategy and Assets.

"We are dedicated to creating opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities to lead valued and fulfilling lives. The Board of Minda is proud of the opportunity to collaboratively work to meet the need for long-term accommodation for people in urgent need of services. They're all about positive change to meet the needs of future generations," Phil added.

Minda Incorporated is one of South Australia's largest disability organisation and also one of the State's largest employers, with over 900 staff and over 1,100 clients in residential care, supported community living and employment.

###

**Media Contact**

Julia Hodge  
Minda Communications Officer  
P: 8422 6513  
M: 0437 907 963