



MEDIA RELEASE

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A FAIRER VICTORIA FOR CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY

The Association for Children with a Disability welcomes the additional support for children with a disability, announced by Premier Brumby today at the launch of *A Fairer Victoria* and also detailed in Tuesday's State Budget.

"The additional 1000 places for early childhood intervention services and the 150 support packages to help children with a disability to attend kindergarten announced today is good news for families," Acting CEO Janice Chan said today.

"This is a valuable recognition of the importance of early intervention and support for children with a disability and their families in the early years. Children with a disability will have a greater opportunity to have the best start in life.

"While additional investment is still required, we are hopeful that there will be further early years support for children with disabilities when the review of early childhood intervention services is completed.

"The Association applauds the record investment in disability. Those who receive the 340 additional individualised support packages will enjoy increased community participation and independence but further investment is still required.

"While new funds to support children with disabilities and their families are always welcome, we would have liked to have seen a greater increase in funds for the Victorian Aids and Equipment Program.

"Urgent investment in new supported accommodation places is required so that young adults with a disability and their families can plan for normal life transitions.

"We strongly urge the Victorian Government to use the Commonwealth State Territory Disability Agreement (CSTDA) negotiations to fix this widening gap." Janice Chan said today.

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Association for Children with a Disability www.acd.org.au