

# WE LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS VE

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

1 August 2017

### **NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY AS LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS CHOSEN TO OPERATE SERVICES**

Over 260 additional people with disability in New South Wales will now receive specialist disability services from Life without Barriers, following a decision made by the NSW Government. The transfer of the management of the services will see Life Without Barriers support more than the 260 people in group homes across the Central Coast, Nepean and Blue Mountains and South East Sydney areas.

In addition to the residents of the group homes, hundreds of people with disability and their families will be able to continue to access respite services which will also transfer to Life Without Barriers.

As well as stability of care and support for residents, staff of the services will now also be able to take advantage of the experience and innovation of one of Australia's largest social purpose organisations

On hand for the official signing on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July, was Life Without Barriers' Chief Executive, Claire Robbs and the Hon. Ray Williams MP, Minister for Disability Services, who acknowledged the work of Life Without Barriers which already supports over 2,000 people with disability across Australia.

Ms. Robbs said the individuals being welcomed into the LWB community will enjoy the consistent high quality support the organisation provides and importantly will also offer greater access to new opportunities in life.

"Through this new opportunity, Life Without Barriers will continue to champion the rights for people with disability by partnering with them to live the life they want to lead," Ms. Robbs said.

The transfer will be completed in early 2018.

To start to build the important relationships involved in providing care and support, Life Without Barriers will meet with the individuals and their families to ensure it understands each individual's needs. LWB staff will do all they can to maintain continuity of support during the process so that individual expectations and supports are continued without disruption.

"The people joining Life Without Barriers and their families have significant expectations, including their continued support to pursue goals and aspirations that they have come to expect from providers under the National Disability Insurance Scheme," Ms. Robbs said.

"We respect these expectations and remain focused on the delivery of quality services, upholding our values and advocating on behalf of our clients.

"As a recognised leader in disability services for over twenty years, Life without Barriers would like to officially welcome our newest members into the Life Without Barriers family."

## **END**

### **Media Enquiries**

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**About Life Without Barriers:** Life Without Barriers (LWB) is one of Australia's largest leading social purpose, not-for-profit organisations, working in more than 300 communities across all states and territories. Its main areas of operation includes support to people with disability, children, young people and families, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, refugees and asylum seekers, older people, and people who are vulnerable to social exclusion.

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In the spirit of Reconciliation, Life Without Barriers acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this country, and their connection to land, water and community. We pay our respect to them, their cultures and customs, and to Elders both past and present.