

31 August 2011

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## ----- ----- EMBARGOED UNTIL 1 PM Thursday 1 September----- Queensland Child Protection Awards winners announced tonight

The winners of the Queensland Child Protection Awards 2011 will be announced at an afternoon ceremony on Thursday 1 September from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm at Parliament House coinciding with the launch of Child Protection Week 4-10 September.

The awards recognise the individuals and groups from all regions of Queensland who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the wellbeing and protection of Queensland children and young people.

"These highly regarded awards acknowledge the dedication, hard work and commitment of individuals and organisations who work towards the protection of children and young people in Queensland," said Holly Brennan, Queensland Child Protection Week Committee Chair. "The awards recognise the champions in Queensland who strive daily to make Queensland a safer place for all of our children."

The Minister for Child Safety, Phil Reeves, the Director-General of the Department of Communities (including Child Safety), Queensland's Commissioner for Children and Young People and Child Guardian, Elizabeth Fraser, and Patron and Network Seven newsreader Kay McGrath are expected to attend. The following individuals and groups will be presented with awards in the following categories:

- Professional (non-government) Outstanding contribution to promoting child protection issues in their capacity as a professional working in the child protection (or related) field. WINNERS NAME, ORGANISATION AND PHONE NUMBER
- 2. **Professional (government)** Outstanding contribution to child protection at a practice, policy or service development level within the public service. WINNERS NAME, ORGANISATION AND PHONE NUMBER
- 3. **Volunteer** Invaluable contributions made by volunteers working in government or non-government agencies. WINNERS NAME, ORGANISATION AND PHONE NUMBER
- 4. **Regional program** Program that operates within part of, or across, a whole region to address some aspect of child protection. WINNERS NAME, ORGANISATION AND PHONE NUMBER
- 5. **Education initiative** Development of an innovative approach, research or resource to promote child protection. WINNERS NAME, ORGANISATION AND PHONE NUMBER
- 6. **Youth participation** Involvement of young people in a local activity to enhance the wellbeing of children and young people. WINNERS NAME, ORGANISATION AND PHONE NUMBER

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY:** The winners of the 2011 Child Protection Awards will be available for a group photo and interviews from 11.30 am till 12.30 pm on Thursday 1 September at the Parliament House Annexe lawn.

The Child Protection Week Queensland Committee acknowledged the Minister for Child Safety Phil Reeves and the Department of Communities for supporting Child Protection Week 2011.

Contact: Vivienne Wynter, Media Officer on 0419 029 728 or <a href="www.www.nter@bigpond.com">wwynter@bigpond.com</a> or Caitlin King, Child Protection Week Project Officer on (07) 3844 6414 or 0418 408 062 or caitlin@childprotectionweek.org.au

www.childprotectionweek.org.au