

The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP Premier of NSW Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$200,000 BOOST TO RESPITE CAMP ON THE CENTRAL COAST

The NSW Government has pledged its support to the expansion of Camp Breakaway in San Remo, committing \$200,000 towards the development of more respite services for people with disability, their families and carers.

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell made the announcement with Minister for Disability Services Andrew Constance, Minister for the Central Coast Chris Hartcher and Member for Wyong Darren Webber at last night's Community Cabinet meeting on the Central Coast.

"Camp Breakaway has a proud history in supporting adults and children with disability on the Central Coast, increasing their social and recreational opportunities while giving their families and carers a well-earned break," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The organisation has plans to expand and upgrade their existing facilities, and I'm proud to announce a \$200,000 contribution from the NSW Government."

Minister for Disability Services Andrew Constance recently visited Camp Breakaway for its 30th anniversary, and said the funding will help the organisation prepare for the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

"It's an exciting time for disability services in NSW because we are so far the only state to agree with the Commonwealth for the future funding of the NDIS," Mr Constance said.

"With the Hunter launch set to go ahead in July before the full roll-out of the scheme in 2018, it's important that local service providers have the capacity for people with disability in their communities."

Member for Wyong Darren Webber said Camp Breakaway has received strong support from the local community and the NSW Government's funding contribution will go a long way.

"Camp Breakaway relies heavily on corporate sponsors and donations from the community, so I am delighted the NSW Government has been able to step in and assist them with their expansion plans," Mr Webber said.

"There's a high demand for respite services on the Central Coast, and in particular the services provided by Camp Breakaway, so I am looking forward to seeing the organisation grow, delivering more opportunities for people with disability."

Mr Hartcher said: "The NSW Government will ensure that the generator sale process includes provisions for the potential purchaser to maintain the existing community arrangements, including Camp Breakaway's lease on Delta Electricity land. It's important that this wonderful community-supported facility continues." Camp Breakaway currently holds nine camps a year accommodating 450 campers, including people with disability, their families and carers.