



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Media Release

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Grace Munro Aged Care Centre approved for bed transfer

The community of Bundarra has again won a battle to have their own aged care facility with the approval by the Department of Health and Ageing coming through late this afternoon of the transfer of 11 aged care places to the Grace Munro Aged Care Centre Ltd from the former operators H.N. Mclean Retirement Village.

It's been another great effort by the people of Bundarra who after battling to establish the facility back in 2004, have once again risen to the occasion, rallied together and won the right to allow people to grow old in Bundarra according to the Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor.

Mr Windsor is full of praise for the community's efforts and thanked all concerned.

"The people of Bundarra have once again shown what small communities can achieve when they dig in and work together.

"The committee established to fight to retain their facility were unwavering in their commitment to the task and did everything in their power to achieve this great result.

"I congratulate and thank Chairman John Oaksford, Secretary Peggy Weiss and other Committee members Daryll Hall, Bruce McLean, Gwenda and Roger Dezius, Garry Young, Phil Cowdery, Gary Cracknell, Chris Lavender, Dorothy Hall, Bill Doak and all the people of Bundarra who showed their support in so many ways.

"I also particularly recognise the efforts of Max Elphick and Debbie McCowen for their vital assistance and expertise in putting all the documentation together ensuring that the application to become the provider met the legislated requirements.

"The staff who also volunteered to stay and care for the residents played a vital role in enabling residents who wished to stay on after McLean ceased being the provider and their efforts are very much appreciated.

"The assistance from the Department of Health and Ageing and the Minister Justine Elliot and her office was also wonderful as they carried out their checks to ensure that the needs and care of the residents was always of paramount importance.

"Finally, I would like to thank the residents of the Grace Munro Centre who were resolute about wanting to stay in Bundarra.

"The official takeover of the 11 beds is as of midnight tonight and means that new residents can enter the facility, those currently on respite there can become residents and the two residents who did move up to McLean can now return to Bundarra with funding following them home," Mr Windsor said.

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