

# New Centrecare offices to help serve community



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KALGOORLIE-BOULDER'S new Centrecare office is officially open.

Child Protection Minister Robyn McSweeney addressed the official opening yesterday, where up to 100 guests including politicians, Centrecare staff and the community were in attendance.

The new spacious office, located on Egan Street, will accommodate the growing needs of the community and meet the demands of the centre's range of services in the region, according to Ms McSweeney.

Centrecare executive manager Rosemary Hunt said the new office created an environment to bring everyone together as a "big team" and centralised services for clients.

"We have got more counselling rooms, more office space, a lovely big conference room and a new meeting room," Ms Hunt said.

"It's wonderful."

Ms McSweeney said though the office had been operational for some months, yesterday marked its official dedication.

"Centrecare is a well established not-for-profit organisation and is widely recognised as providing professional counselling, support,

family dispute resolution and training services to individuals, children and families across the State," she said.

"In 2004, Centrecare recognised its existing facilities in Kalgoorlie-Boulder would not be able to meet the long-term accommodation needs of its Goldfields operations and purchased its current property to build their new office."

Ms McSweeney said in 2007, Centrecare received a \$1.5 million grant from Lotterywest to assist with the construction and fit-out of the new offices. Capital works started in July 2009.

Operations of the new premises started in November, with about 50 full-time staff delivering 36 contracted services, including family and relationship counselling, supported accommodation, crisis intervention, transitional training and education programs, mental health support and child contact post separation services.

Ms McSweeney said for the 2010-11 financial year, Centrecare would receive a total of \$7.5m Statewide in recurrent funding, including \$748,655 for services in the Goldfields-Esperance region.



Proud moment: Centrecare director Tony Pietropiccolo, Melissa Perry, Cherie Broers, Honourable Michael Mischin, Child Protection Minister Robyn McSweeney, Centrecare executive manager Rosemary Hunt, Glenda Kickett and Errol Groves at the opening of Centrecare's office. Photo: KELLIE LEWIS