



Speech by

Mr D. BRISKEY

MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND

Hansard 20 October 1998

DISABILITY SERVICES; MISS LIONS COMPETITION

Mr BRISKEY (Cleveland—ALP) (10.21 a.m.): The Beattie Government's \$30m a year increase in funding for disability services is no token increase or minor adjustment to allow for economic forces, it is a major injection of funds to a sector which has demonstrated a need for some time. This decision will mean a great deal to the many people with disabilities and their families, not to mention the many carers and community-based workers who work and live in my electorate.

What gratifies me most about this package is that it aims to strengthen the partnership Government has with the valuable community agencies that already exist in our community. These organisations provide assistance to the many people with physical and intellectual disabilities who currently live, work and make significant personal contributions to our local areas. The community-based agencies which serve the Redland Shire have made a real difference to many people with disabilities. They have provided accommodation support, recreational options, employment and training, respite care, personal encouragement and motivation and other life-style support programs.

It takes the ingredients of confidence, concern for people in the community and entrepreneurship to make it as a successful entrant of the annual Miss Lions Competition. With the support of SHARE, the Special Housing Association of Redlands, and the local Lions club, a talented young woman, Miss Jean Fry, rose to the challenge and set in place an extremely successful fundraising campaign benefiting local community projects and medical research in Queensland. Jean Fry endeavoured to make a difference. She represented her local area and then went on to win an award for her fundraising achievements. This achievement is a benchmark any person would be proud to reach. Jean Fry is a special person—a person with an intellectual disability. Congratulations, Jean.

Through the support that is very much a part of SHARE, the Bayside Respite Care Association and the Horizon Foundation, people with disabilities are able to break through their personal glass ceilings to realise their ambitions through new opportunities and a strong network of friends brought together by these agencies. I recognise the efforts of these people and the organisations they support for the impact they have had on countless individuals in the broader community.

Time expired.
