



Speech by

**CAROLYN MALE**

**MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE**

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#### **CABOOLTURE REGIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE**

**Ms MALE** (Glass House—ALP) (12.08 a.m.): Recently I attended the opening of the expanded Caboolture Regional Domestic Violence Service. The Minister for Families, the Hon. Judy Spence, officially launched the expanded service and premises which will operate under the name Caboolture Regional Centre Against Violence. This name was chosen to encompass the holistic nature of all the intended programs.

For over a decade the Caboolture Regional Domestic Violence Service has provided a first-class service to those in need in the Caboolture area. The types of services they provide include advice and assistance to victims of domestic violence, including court support and counselling for children who have witnessed domestic violence in the home. Now they have additional funding to extend service delivery to people experiencing domestic and family violence in intimate, family and informal care relationships.

Make no mistake, though: the Caboolture Regional Domestic Violence Service is not just a reactive service. It has been proactive and innovative in its field. In 2001 it worked closely with the Queensland Police Service to devise and launch the Kids in Domestic Violence Situations Faxback Project. This project aims to enhance the awareness of the effects of domestic violence on children and has been extremely successful to date.

The new Caboolture Regional Centre Against Violence will be working closely with schools in the area to provide educational programs for young people around developing and maintaining healthy personal relationships. There will be further development of partnerships with local health and disability services agencies to ensure that their clients are aware of the relevant support services that can be provided and to provide additional support and training to workers in these vital areas.

I was particularly interested to hear about a new project entitled BRICKS—Building Relationships in Caring for Kids Safely. This program is a dad and kids program which will deal with the issue of building good relationships with children and developing an understanding of how parental behaviour affects their children. The Caboolture Regional Domestic Violence Service receives a total of over \$588,000 per annum to run the service, including the additional grant of \$243,000 just allocated to them to provide new services.

The Beattie Labor government believes that creating safe communities that are free from violence and harm and where individuals have access to local support, information and practical assistance is vital. That is why a service such as this one plays such an important role in improving the lives of individuals and by supporting families and communities.

I have been advocating to the minister that this area has needed extra assistance and domestic violence support and counselling, and it is great to see the Beattie Labor government answering that need with a solid input of new funding. I want to personally congratulate Jan Larkin and her team of workers and volunteers at the Caboolture Regional Centre Against Violence. The team has been working cooperatively and proactively in the difficult arena of family violence and have provided amazing levels of support to people in need. Their professionalism and dedication to the task at hand are an inspiration to us all.

The minister summed up the issue in her speech when she said that addressing and preventing domestic violence is both a government and a community responsibility. We need to work with each other in a positive and innovative way if we are going to make a difference. I would like to thank the Caboolture Regional Centre Against Violence for addressing and responding to domestic and family violence. Their contribution to the lives of individuals, families and communities since the service's inception in 1992 has been significant. I know that I share the vision that one day we can see an end to all violence in our community.