




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

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ADJOURNMENT

Jajumbora Community Hub

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (7.22 pm): I rise to acknowledge some incredible news from the Waterford community that the Palaszczuk government has reinstated our community maternity hubs in Logan. Last month I joined Minister Miles, the chair of the Metro South Health and Hospital Board, Janine Walker, and the members for Logan and Macalister to celebrate the opening of the Jajumbora community hub in Waterford West.

Jajumbora, run in partnership with the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service, is one of three community hubs across the Logan community. This is something that the member for Logan and I rallied for as candidates for our respective seats. It was humbling to see what the passionate community of Logan can achieve when we work together to push for change.

These hubs provide much needed support to vulnerable women, with maternity based services for mums with newborns who find it hard to link up with help through traditional avenues, such as mothers groups, antenatal follow-ups or GP visits. Indigenous women, Maori and Pacific islanders, refugees, women who do not speak English, young women, single mums or women living with mental health—it is the children of these women that this investment ensures have the best start to life.

We know that on average health outcomes for mothers and children in Logan are lower than the state average, which is why services such as Jajumbora are crucial to close this gap. All aspects of these hubs have been designed to break down the barriers which stop women from not accessing adequate antenatal care and create a welcoming space.

Walking around Jajumbora it was fantastic to see the incredible welcoming space they have created. It was wonderful to meet one of the first Jajumbora babies Isaiah and his mum, Lyn Gilpin, and listen to the experience they have had so far at the hub. Women like Lyn, who walk through the door of one of our mum and bub hubs, will find themselves in a safe environment, where they can get the helping hand they need and access professional advice. Lyn, who recently moved up from Sydney, said that she had found the help of her midwife absolutely invaluable and she could call her at any time of the day or night.

The need for these services to be in the communities and easily accessible is vital to making sure we have healthy bubs, mums and families. Tragically, these services were cut under the previous LNP government. It is fantastic to see that that midwifery services are returning to the community and to those women most in need.

As well as investing \$3 million in the Logan maternity community hubs, Labor announced at the last election \$12.6 million for a new maternity ward at Logan Hospital. The Palaszczuk government is absolutely dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders. It has been a long time coming, but I can finally say that midwifery services are returning to the community and to those most in need.