

## Question on Notice

Number 439

Asked on Thursday, 24 March 2005

**Andrew McNamara MP** asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**Mr Pitt**) -

With reference to the Innovative Funding – Community Initiatives program –

Will he give some examples of support options developed through this program?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government provided \$1.4 million in 2003-04 in recurrent and non-recurrent grants to twenty community groups and services to develop and trial a range of innovative support approaches.

Some examples of these include:

**Mobile Attendant Care Service**  
**Mackay and District Education Centre**  
**Central Queensland**  
**\$134,511 recurrent**

The Mobile Attendant Care Service is a night-time service providing support through regular bookings, one-off bookings and emergency call-outs to meet the needs of people with a disability in the Mackay region. The service follows a similar model to that of a Brisbane-based organisation. The aim of the service is to provide choice and to empower people with disability to attend evening events, training etc. The service also provides the opportunity for people to direct their own support in a timely and least intrusive way. The Mobile Attendant Care Service provides support to people with disability by providing short-term and timely overnight support; medication and turning; emergency call-outs and security.

**Pave the Way Project**  
**Mamre Association Inc**  
**Statewide**  
**\$90,201 recurrent; \$25,000 non-recurrent**

The 'Pave the Way Project' has been developed to help families who have a member with a disability to develop a vision for now and the future and to plan to make that vision a reality. The aim of the project is to work with families and strategies aimed at safeguarding their family member in the future. It has been assumed that there may be no one 'model' to address these issues. The project has been developed through a considered and thoughtful approach that works respectfully with families. Families were consulted and indicated a lack of personal networks around their family member and concerns about how to develop these.

During the 'Pave the Way Project', there was widespread acknowledgment and acceptance among families that it is other people who will enhance the lives of their family members and will keep them safe in the long-term, not funding packages, paid workers, services, government, or legal mechanisms.

**Peer Support Program**  
**Spinal Injuries Association of Queensland**  
**Statewide**  
**\$112,538 recurrent**

The Peer Support Program is a pro-active initiative that links trained peer support workers who have a spinal cord injury, with individuals who are newly injured and their families, before they are discharged from hospital. Peer support is continued in the transition from acute health care to community life and during other major life transitions (eg marriage, employment and moving from home).

The issues faced by people who have an acquired spinal cord injury during transition are numerous and include loss of independence and having to rely on other people in the initial period; lack of wheelchair access to many facilities; and lack of knowledge about how to access the community.