



**ATTORNEY-GENERAL
HON ROBERT McCLELLAND MP
AND
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEWCASTLE
SHARON GRIERSON MP**

MEDIA RELEASE

21 August 2009

**HUNTER COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE
FAMILY LAW PROGRAM**

Attorney-General, Robert McClelland, and Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson, today launched the Hunter Community Legal Centre Family Law Program.

The Family Law Program (FLP) is a \$200,000 twelve month pilot funded by the Australian Government to provide extended family law legal advice and assistance services to disadvantaged people in the Hunter region.

“The aim of the Program is to improve outcomes for families unable to access legal advice services,” Mr McClelland said.

The Attorney-General was also in town to address a conference held by the Newcastle Gateway Project, titled ‘Family Violence in Focus.’

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson, welcomed the Attorney-General’s visit to Newcastle and his support for these local organisations.

“Having the Attorney-General in Newcastle assisting such important legal programs demonstrates the Rudd Government’s commitment to both improved family law outcomes and the Hunter region,” Ms Grierson said.

Principal Solicitor at the Hunter Community Legal Centre, Liz Pinnock, said the Program will seek to enhance the understanding of legal rights and responsibilities and improve advocacy in family law disputes.

The Hunter Community Legal Centre may be contacted on (02) 4926 3329.

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