

## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2011

With the introduction of the Families NSW initiative (1999) and the NSW Health Supporting Families Early Directives (2010), there has been a clearer pathway developed for managing the various levels of need that families often present with to General Practitioner and child and family health services. To reflect and accommodate these changes, the Karitane Family Care Centres have reviewed their intake process and referral criteria to comply with the NSW Health policy directives and to better meet the needs of families within the community.

### WHEN TO REFER TO KARITANE FAMILY CARE CENTRES

Local primary level child and family health service providers such as General Practitioners or Child Family Health nurses would generally be the first point of call for support for parenting challenges. These challenges may be in such domains as sleep and settling; feeding; infant/child relationship or perinatal mood disorders.

Family Care Centres (FCCs) in NSW are secondary level services which aim to provide consultation, education and support to primary health care services, such as Child And Family Health services, General Practitioners and other first contact health services. Family care centres also provide direct service provision to families with children 0-5 years in collaboration with primary care providers. The FCC consists of a multi-disciplinary team of Child and Family Health nurses, mothercraft nurses, social workers and psychologists.

In collaboration with parents/carers the primary parenting support service provider would consider a referral to Karitane's secondary services if the particular parenting challenge was not improving after intervention had been attempted or as an appropriate specialised service required for effective care planning.

### HOW TO REFER TO KARITANE FAMILY CARE CENTRES

Referrals are required for all FCC services and are accepted from professionals by phoning or faxing. It is recommended that clients access Child and Family health services for assessment and to commence strategies prior to the referral. Acceptance of the referral will be based upon the family living within the Local Government Areas of Liverpool or Randwick and the outcome of the multidisciplinary team intake meeting where the appropriateness of the referral is reviewed.

Randwick FCC-146 Avoca St, Randwick P- 9399 6999; F- 9399 8510

Intake Hours - Monday-Friday 1:30pm -4:00pm

Liverpool FCC- 10 Murphy Ave, Liverpool. P- 9821 4555; F- 9821 4559

Intake Hours- Monday-Friday 1:30pm -4:00pm

Intake Forms can be accessed via the Karitane website

<http://www.karitane.com.au/>

We are happy to provide further information on any of our services and look forward to working together with you.

Kind regards



Robert Mills  
CEO Karitane