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## MEDIA RELEASE

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17 JANUARY 2008

### **WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENT ON FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES SUPPORT SERVICES**

Family Relationship Services Australia welcomes today's announcement by Attorney General Robert McClelland and the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Jenny Macklin, identifying the organisations selected to operate seventy-five new family services across Australia.

"This expansion of services will further strengthen and enhance services already available to Australian families. As seen in previous rounds of competitive selection, the organisations selected to operate the new services all have proven experience in the delivery of high quality services to families. FRSA congratulates our member organisations and other community organisations that were successful in their bid to operate one or more of these new services", said FRSA's Executive Director Sam Page.

The new services include 25 Family Relationship Centres which will bring the national network to 65. Family Relationship Centres are a source of information and confidential advice whether you are starting a relationship, wanting to strengthen a relationship or having relationship issues. These centres also offer dispute resolution for separating families. Fourteen Children's contact services will enable the safe transfer of children and supervised visits when families separate.

"The establishment of fourteen Post Separation Cooperative Parenting services and twenty-two early intervention services will ensure that individuals, families and parents can be assisted to develop and strengthen family relationships."

Family Relationship Services looks forward to working with the Government in the implementation of services and support for families.

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Family Relationship Services Australia is the national peak body for over 100 family relationship service providers, operating in more than 400 locations across Australia. FRSA's vision is for an Australian society that is enriched through respectful relationships in all their diversity.