

DISABILITY POLICY

2010 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE ELECTION

Supporting the disabled and mentally ill is fundamental to Family First's core values of supporting families and our most disadvantaged. Family First believes in social justice and equity for all.

The current State Labor Government has seriously neglected its moral obligation to support those with special needs and disabilities.

FAMILY FIRST are seeking a commitment of an additional \$110 million in recurrent funding for the disability sector from each of the major parties

Family First is seeking this additional funding after regularly taking the Government to task on its failures in disability services.

OUR EFFORTS FOR THE DISABLED:

- Family First exposed the shocking level of "unmet need" in the disability sector, with hundreds of disabled people in 2008 at risk of immediate harm or danger and going unhelped in the disability sector
- Family First revealed in August 2009 that 200 families were on the waiting list for respite care for a maximum 2 days' respite a fortnight and 2 weeks away per annum, some waiting as long as 2 years for acceptance into the program.
- Family First fought for the right of the visually impaired to take their guide dog in a taxi and initiated an investigation into the industry including alleged rorting of disability access vouchers.

FURTHER COMMITMENTS:

- additional \$4 million per year to support students with special learning needs
- assistive technology and equipment for individuals as a whole-of-life, not program-specific, response to their needs, including one off State/Federal funding package
- stem cell research that is delivering at an increasing rate positive clinical results for organ regeneration for patients such as adult and induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) research.
- Housing the disabled via (1) a new quarantined and dedicated housing pool within Housing SA and (2) reinvigoration of supported housing for intellectually disabled at the Strathmont Centre
- More funding for those who employ the disabled such as Minda Disability Enterprises, Barkuma Inc, Finding Workable Solutions