



## MEDIA RELEASE

June 11, 2008

### **Gracehaven Nursing Home gains only six-seater wheelchair bus in Rockingham.**

The much anticipated culmination of a successful Lotterywest grant will be travelling up the driveway of Baptistcare's Gracehaven Nursing Home in Rockingham this Friday; a six wheelchair seater, 3.9L turbo diesel Mitsubishi Rosa Deluxe Bus.

The extremely generous Lotterywest grant contributed a total of \$119,049 to the project. Baptistcare also contributed a sizable sum to the over seven and a half thousand dollars that the Gracehaven Nursing Home staff had already fundraised for such a vehicle.

The wheelchair modified bus will allow staff to take wheelchair bound residents of the nursing home out into the community on a more regular basis and minimise the inconvenience of multiple trips involved with only having vehicles that carry three wheelchairs.

Carol Barnes, Manager Residential Services at Gracehaven Village, says that the Bus will enhance the quality of life of the residents of Gracehaven Nursing Home to an amazing degree.

'The bus will enable staff to take our wheelchair bound residents out to experience activities in the community that, in the past, we've have a limited capacity to coordinate.'

'They'll be able to go on picnics and barbeques, to the beach, see concerts and go to special community events like the Perth Royal show; just like any other able bodied person,' Carol said.

In light of recent fears that activity funding for aged care facilities would be cut by the Federal Government, this grant acquisition is a very positive sign for Baptistcare that the WA community will not let our older family members be forgotten and that Lotterywest continues to provide vital assistance to community development in WA.

#### **Photo Opportunity**

Date: Friday, June 13.

Venue: Gracehaven Nursing Home, Westralia Avenue, Rockingham.

Time: 2:00pm

Event: Gracehaven Bus dedication ceremony.

Guests: Member for Rockingham Minister Mark McGowan, Baptistcare CEO Ken Ridge, Gracehaven Village Manager Carol Barnes.

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#### **Media Enquiries**

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