

Hodgman Liberal Funding Announcement

In light of current health statistics and government priorities, Epilepsy Tasmania welcomes the Hodgman Liberal Government's re-election promise of significant funding to increase capacity and reach of its Tasmanian services.

One fifth of Tasmania's population are living with or affected by epilepsy.

"The Liberal's commitment to prevention and early intervention by community-based organisations will improve GP liaison and help keep people out of clinical services," said Epilepsy Tasmania CEO, Wendy Groot.

"This funding will enable us to reach more Tasmanians living in rural and remote locations, and increase education and awareness of epilepsy through our **Smart Schools** and **Epilepsy Friendly Workplace** initiatives."

The National Disability Insurance Agency does not consider epilepsy to be criteria for accessing the NDIS: epilepsy is a brain disorder not a disability. The Liberal funding promise will allow Epilepsy Tasmania to bridge the healthcare gaps that now exist and increase the level of support and service-delivery at a community level.

"Epilepsy Tasmania has been helping Tasmanians take control of their condition and improve their quality of life and independence for over 40 years," said Ms Groot.

"Tasmania has different health concerns to mainland Australia: an ageing population, the highest suicide rate, increasing obesity rates, the second highest national smoking rates, low socio-economics, and high unemployment levels."

Epilepsy Tasmania is a not-for-profit community organisation that travels statewide to help Tasmanians establish new connections and support systems, communicate better with medical specialists, draw up personal epilepsy and/or medication management plans, provides epilepsy first-aid training, advocacy, support and advice.

"This is a significant boost in confidence that provides comfort and security for Tasmanians who are living with or affected by epilepsy," said Epilepsy Tasmania's Chair of the Board, Ian Sauer.

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MORE INFORMATION: Claire Burnet 0448 585 947 / www.epilepsytasmania.org.au

ABOUT EPILEPSY:

- Epilepsy is a common brain disorder that takes the form of recurring seizures.
- It can develop at any age regardless of ethnicity or gender.
- One in 10 people will experience a seizure during their life.
- 20,000 Tasmanians develop epilepsy during their lifetime.
- 80,000 family members, friends, colleagues and carers are also affected.

CONNECT WITH EPILEPSY TASMANIA ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Twitter: @epilepsytas
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Instagram: EpilepsyTasmania
Hashtags: #DonateToTheLavender #EpilepsyConnect #OpenGardensForEpilepsy
#EpilepsyFriendlyWorkplace #FriendOfEpilepsyTasmania

SPOKESPEOPLE:

- Epilepsy Tasmania CEO - Ms Wendy Groot.

ABOUT EPILEPSY TASMANIA:

Epilepsy Tasmania is a not-for-profit, community organisation providing a broad range of resources and services across Tasmania to improve the quality of life and community participation of Tasmanians living with or affected by epilepsy.



Become a Friend of Epilepsy Tasmania

Your support enhances our ability to speak for and advocate on behalf of Tasmanians who are living with or affected by epilepsy.



Donate to the Lavender

Assurance that your donation will stay in Tasmania and be used to help Tasmanians.



Become an Epilepsy Friendly Workplace

Workplace seizure first-aid training.



Open Gardens for Epilepsy

Raising awareness of epilepsy in partnership with Blooming Tasmania.



Epilepsy Connect

Telephone-based peer support service.