



RASAIID

Ryde Area Supported Accommodation for Intellectually Disabled

November 9th, 2009

For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

Rally to Support Ryde Families in Urgent Need of Supported Accommodation for their Adult Children with Intellectual Disabilities

RASAIID, a group of 20 families in the Ryde area, is holding a rally on Friday, November 13, to publically demand that the NSW state government urgently meets the supported accommodation needs of its adult sons and daughters with dependent disabilities.

The group, formed six years ago, has developed a cluster residential model within the guidelines of the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care.

Despite bipartisan support from local, state and federal politicians and encouragement from bureaucrats and the general public, approval from Minister Paul Lynch is still not forthcoming.

These families are either at or near crisis, as they have been caring for their disabled members for 24-50 years.

They need to transition their sons and daughters into suitable care in the Ryde area, before they themselves become too old, too sick or too dead to care for them! RASAIID's oldest member is 87.

"Other kids who grow up together with friends have the choice of keeping those stable friendships and familiarity around them when they move out of home," says RASAIID President, Jenny Rollo.

"To date, our kids have not been offered this option which we are clinically aware is so healthy for them and so completely feasible."

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The alternative to RASAIID's plan for an orderly transition is inhumane. Parents would have to relinquish care of their disabled adult child, who might then be placed in a home far from their friends, family, day programs or work.

The rally is being held at the Rotunda in Ryde Park this (Black) Friday 13 November at 4.30pm. Speakers will include parents and children of RASAIID and a range of supporters including Mary-Lou Carter from Carers' Alliance.

Attached: Invitation to the rally and Media Briefing Notes/Fact Sheet 2009.

For all media enquiries and to arrange pre-rally interviews with RASAIID families and its organisers, please contact Teresa Russell on 02-9807.9693 or 0400-00 23 49

For more information or stories about our members, go to <http://www.rasaid.org.au>

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