

23 January 2013

## HIGH PROFILE SPEAKERS ARE SET TO ATTEND CARERS NSW BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

The Carers NSW 2013 Biennial Conference: *Caring Working Living* will be attended by a number of high profile political, academic and media figures including ministers, professors and a TV personality.

NSW Minister for Ageing and Disability Services **The Hon. Andrew Constance MP** will officially open the conference while NSW Health Minister **The Hon. Jillian Skinner MP** will close the event.

Also attending the conference will be leading academics **Professor Luke Clements** from Cardiff Law School, **Professor Sue Yeandle** from the University of Leeds and **Ms Elizabeth Broderick**, Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission who have all been named as keynote speakers.

Journalist and TV and radio personality **Geraldine Doogue** will moderate a debate on the NDIS which will be held on the first day of the conference.

The debate, "The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), - will it do everything it needs to do?" is set to be a major drawcard with **Scott Holz**, State Manager, National Disability Services, **Carolyn Quinn**, Carer and Member of the NSW Carers Advisory Council, **John Walsh**, Partner, Consulting Health Unit, PriceWaterhouseCoopers (previously Productivity Commissioner) and **June Riemer**, State Manager, Aboriginal Disability Network NSW all participating.

Carers NSW CEO Elena Katrakis said "We are absolutely delighted and honoured that such highly regarded experts will be attending the conference."

"Each and every one of our speakers brings a wealth of knowledge in their field and it will be great for them to share their views with the other delegates."

Ms Katrakis said that the conference would cover a broad range of topics to ensure that a holistic view of caring is presented.

"The themes of this year's conference are Caring, Working and Living to ensure that we look beyond the daily tasks associated with caring and take a broad view of the caring experience."

"Carers do all the things that everybody else does. They work, they have relationships, they socialise, they go to school or university and it is important to ensure that they are supported in balancing these areas of their lives with their caring roles."

"The fact that we will be welcoming delegates from such a wide variety of backgrounds and disciplines means that we will be able to look at the different elements of caring and how we can provide wide-ranging support to empower carers to care, work and live well."

For more information, visit [www.carersnsw.org.au/conf2013](http://www.carersnsw.org.au/conf2013)

**Media contact:** Kate Fairbairn (02) 9280 4744 or 0400 061 100