

# MEDIA RELEASE



May 2011

## **Nearly two decades of volunteering**

Lisa Jane King has donated nearly two decades worth of time to Churches of Christ Care's Golden Age Retirement Village.

For three days a week, for five hours a day, Lisa journeys over to the retirement village to help in the kitchen and wherever else she is needed.

And last week Ms King was thanked at a luncheon for all of her years of dedication as part of our National Volunteer Week celebrations.

"I started volunteering at Churches of Christ Care's Golden Aged Retirement Village when I was very young – I just love it," Lisa said.

"I have a lot of fun volunteering at the village, and there is always something new and interesting to talk about.

"There is never a dull moment. I also really value all the friends I have made over the years, both residents and staff."

Churches of Christ Care's Golden Age Retirement Village Diversional Therapist Helen Hardcastle said Lisa was a joy to work with.

"She always has a smile on her face, and is always willing to help out with whatever we need," Ms Hardcastle said.

"She is especially helpful with organising events and catering."

Churches of Christ Care Aged Care General Manager Jeanette Evans said the organisation's 700 volunteers played a crucial role.

"All our volunteers help out in so many ways and each contributes to enriching the lives of our residents," Mrs Evans said.

"Volunteers bring fresh perspectives and enthusiasm to daily activities and can bring a positive change to the day-to-day living and working experience. Many also bring specialised skills and knowledge, new ideas and a fresh insight to the tasks at hand.

"They are vitally important to us, and we are always looking for more people who may be able to give a few hours of their time, even if it is only once a month. It makes such a difference to the lives of our residents."

National Volunteer Week ran from 9 -15 May and provided an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our communities and to say thank you to them.

Around 40 volunteers from Churches of Christ Care's Lady Small Haven Aged Care Services, Golden Age Aged Care Services, Marana Gardens Aged Care Services,

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Homesteads Aged Care Services, as well as the Gold Coast Community Care Program and members from the Pastoral Care Team were recognised at the celebration last week.

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## **About Churches of Christ Care**

Churches of Christ Care is a division of Churches of Christ in Queensland—a group of churches that is part of the worldwide Christian church.

We strive to create an inclusive, caring, compassionate environment that meets our clients' needs without discrimination or prejudice. Everyone is welcome to call on our help regardless of their religious background.

Churches of Christ Care is one of Queensland's leading providers of early childhood, child protection, affordable housing, retirement living and aged care services. We are a not-for-profit organisation that supports more than 27,000 clients each year in urban, rural and remote areas.

We operate 137 services throughout Queensland with the support of more than 2,800 staff and over 700 volunteers.

Churches of Christ Care is built on a foundation of Christian values, commitment to quality care, and trust and respect for clients and the community.