

Media Release

New Home for Community Services

The recently-relocated Kangaroo Island Community Services Centre, which moved to the Community Centre in mid-December 2015, will provide locals with increased support services for social issues and offer more opportunities for community engagement.

Junction Australia Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Regional Manager Jessica Stevens said the Centre's co-location model, which allows many services to share the one space rather than rent individual work spaces, meant it was a more viable option for support services and also allows community groups to use the Centre for programs, meetings and classes.

"The Kangaroo Island Community Centre will offer more opportunities for community members to connect, learn and develop as individuals and in group settings," Ms Stevens said.

Junction Australia operates the island's Domestic Violence Service, Homelessness Support Service, Emergency Relief Program and Adult Community Education programs, as well as the Partners in Recovery Mental Health Support program, through the Centre.

A Community Development Officer is also employed by Junction Australia and based at the Centre, while Uniting Communities uses the space for family mediation services and Relationships Australia offers gambling counselling there.

Junction Australia CEO Graham Brown said the new Centre would not be possible without the support of the Kangaroo Island Council and Community Benefit SA, which contributed \$30,000 (over three years) and \$50,000 to the relocation of the Centre respectively.

"We're extremely grateful for the support of the Council and the Community Benefits Fund. Without their support, this new Centre, and improved outcomes for Kangaroo Island residents, would not have been possible."

Since 2010, Junction Australia has worked with and supported over 400 women, men, families and youth on Kangaroo Island.

"The KICC will not only provide opportunities for our clients to access other services operating from or running programs from the Centre, but will provide opportunities for program participants to connect to our services. The Centre will also provide a space for community members to volunteer, participate and connect socially with other members of the KI community" said Mr Brown.

Junction Australia is a trusted provider of high quality, affordable housing and integrated community services that currently manages 1,700 properties across South Australia. We firmly believe that by working together we can take steps that enable people to navigate their way from 'Crisis to Connectedness'. Our clients are supported to overcome barriers, access opportunities and pursue their hopes and dreams.

Media contact: Peter Nicolaci, Communications Manager – Junction Australia – 0417 883 915