

MEDIA RELEASE

Mental Health Carers Report 2010

24 November 2010

The *Mental Health Carers Report 2010* will be officially launched by Senator Jan McLucas, Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Carers, at Parliament House on Thursday 25 November 2010.

The *Mental Health Carers Report 2010* provides the first quantifiable measure of the issues and concerns of Australian mental health carers and the people they care for. It is the first in an ongoing series of surveys to record, compare and comment upon the changing experiences of mental health carers.

The survey builds on the groundbreaking work of *Adversity to Advocacy: the lives and hopes of mental health carers*, a report by the Mental Health Council of Australia launched by the Hon Jenny Macklin in 2009. *Adversity to Advocacy* detailed the outcomes of 116 workshops attended by carers to identify the key issues affecting their lives and the lives of the people they care for.

Fifteen key issues emerged from these national workshops. These formed the basis of the 50 question survey, the results of which are detailed in the *Mental Health Carers Report 2010*.

The *Mental Health Carers Report 2010* is the first in what will become an annually repeated study intended to monitor changes in mental health carers' experiences.

**Launch of the *Mental Health Carers Report 2010*
8.30 am - 9.00 am, Thursday 25 November 2010
Sir Frederick Holder Room, Parliament House**

Media Contact: Simon Tatz on 0402 613 745 or 02 6285 3100

The Mental Health Council of Australia is the independent, national representative body of the mental health sector in Australia.
Ph: (02) 6285 3100 Fax: (02) 6285 2166 E-mail: admin@mhca.org.au www.mhca.org.au