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# MEDIA RELEASE

## Raising Awareness of support services for Australia's carers

The Australian Government is working to raise awareness of Carer Gateway, a free support program for Australia's 2.65 million carers.

National Carers Week (16-22 October) is a great opportunity to raise community awareness of the diversity of carers and the important roles they play in supporting our community, and the support available to them through Carer Gateway.

Care2Serve is the lead Carer Gateway service provider in Tasmania, delivering services and supports such as tailored support packages, counselling, emergency respite, skills courses and coaching for over 80,000 carers in Tasmania.

David Brennan, Care2Serve CEO said, 'Help for those who might never ask,' the Carer Gateway campaign emphasises that looking after others can be rewarding but tough, and it's OK to reach out and ask for support.

"It's great to see real carers talking about the benefits of Carer Gateway, how it helped them and how it can help others. I fully commend the portrayal of the true carer experience and believe this national campaign will encourage more carers to reach out for the support they need before reaching crisis point".

Minister for Social Services, Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, said that many carers did not know what support was available to help them personally, instead focusing on services for their family member or friend.

"I encourage anyone caring for a family member or friend with disability, a medical condition, mental illness or who is older to contact Carer Gateway to get support that is right for them".

Care2Serve, the service delivery arm of Carers Tasmania has offices in Hobart, Launceston, and Burnie.

To find out more, call **1800 422 737 (& press 1 at the menu)** or visit **[CarerGateway.gov.au](https://www.CarerGateway.gov.au)**