

**For immediate release
November 2014**

Camp Breakaway receives a well-earned *lift* from Wallarah 2 to aid carers and visitors

Camp Breakaway was in real need of additional lifting hoists to assist carers and those visiting the facility on respite camps. As part of its 2014 Community Foundation program, Wallarah 2 responded to Camp Breakaway by providing \$8,620 in grant funding so that the organisation could purchase two Sonata 150 lifting hoists.

Talking about her delight at having new state of the art hoists, Dawn Caplin, Chief Executive Officer of Camp Breakaway said, "With less than one per cent of our running costs covered by Government funding and expenses of more than \$60,000 per month associated with running the organisation, assistance like that provide by Wallarah 2 is not only greatly appreciated, it is absolutely vital.

"Here at Camp Breakaway we cater to adults and children, often with severe and multiple disabilities such as paralysis, acquired brain injuries, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, spina bifida and cancer to terminal illness. As such, we often have people visiting us who are unable to lift themselves out a wheelchair and into bed.

"Without these lifting hoists our volunteers and nurses often aren't able to safely lift and move our guests from one place to another. In the past we have had to rely on our guests bringing their own lifts. However, this, sadly, has meant that some people we have wanted to help have been unable to attend Camp Breakaway because they were simply unable to transport their own lifting hoist for use.

"I am thrilled that now, thanks to the kind support of Wallarah 2, we will no longer face issues around lifting and moving guests to and from wheelchairs and beds as we now have all we need on-site to keep our guests, volunteers and carers safe – which is our highest priority."

Peter Smith, Community Manager, Wallarah 2 Coal Project said, "There really is no better feeling than helping an organisation like Camp Breakaway, whose sole focus is on enhancing the lives of people with disabilities and providing much needed relief for families and carers.

"What the team at Camp Breakaway do for those with disabilities, and the network of friends and family who care for those with disabilities is truly invaluable. It is about more than just a simple camp, it is about building relationships, providing challenges and hosting exciting activities for all who attend, essentially taking the ordinary out of the everyday and offering extraordinary opportunities suitable to each individual situation.

"It is such a pleasure to see how a simple gesture, like providing the means to purchase two lifting hoists can make such a difference to so many people and I hope that this means more people in need of the services of Camp Breakaway, will be able to enjoy the wonderful facilities on offer.

Camp Breakaway has been providing community respite camps since 1982. With just six full time staff, the camp relies on the time and generosity of more than 500 fully-trained volunteers to continue running camps to enhance the lives of people with disabilities, including providing much sought after relief for families and carers.

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For more information, interviews and photo opportunities:

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