



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Thursday, 27 August 2009

MontroseAccess Strathpine staff win award

Recently, two key staff members from non-profit organisation MontroseAccess Strathpine were recognised for their 'active learning approach' therapy techniques when dealing with young children with developmental delays.

Marion Langdon, Speech Pathologist, and Christine Stache, Occupational Therapist, received the "Early Childhood Quality Inclusive Practice Award for Excellence" under the category of Service Delivery.

The award was presented at a cocktail function held in late-August as part of Early Childhood Intervention Awareness Week. The Week is a national initiative developed to celebrate the commitment of professionals working with young children.

"Marion and I are very thrilled to be recognised for our therapy work, since we are both passionate about inspiring quality lives among young children with disabilities," said Christine.

MontroseAccess' General Manager of Client Services, Clare Besly, said that Marion and Christine's 'Active Learning Program' for children with significant developmental delays is enabling children to interact with their parents, siblings and with their peers. This increases their opportunities for inclusion in their family and social groups.

"Parents are reporting progress in all facets of their child's development. One mum reported that she'd never seen her child having so much fun," said Ms Besly.

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Marion and Christine's therapy techniques in the active learning program encourage the use (in no specific way) of everyday items and materials. This approach enables a child's creativity to emerge in random play actions and develops their cognitive understanding of objects and properties. It also leads to improved communication and motor and sensory-perceptual skills. Children can use these same materials to practise skills at many different developmental levels.

MontroseAccess provides therapy, respite and recreation services for children and young adults with physical disabilities from offices in Strathpine, Brisbane and on the Gold and Sunshine Coasts.

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PHOTO OPPORTUNITY:

Marion Langdon, Speech Pathologist, and Christine Stache, Occupational Therapist, MontroseAccess, with their Award.

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