



**Kon Vatskalis**

MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**13 May 2010**

## **New One-Stop-Shop For Disability Services**

Territorians with disabilities, along with their families and carers, now have access to Darwin's first dedicated 'one-stop-shop' with the Office of Disability officially opening today.

The office, opened by Children and Families Minister Kon Vatskalis, will provide information and referrals for support services in the NT through one central office.

"This important facility will provide access to information and referrals to specialist aged and disability programs, and will create easier access to these services in the Top End," Mr Vatskalis said.

"The Office of Disability will provide support by bringing together information about all services available to people with disabilities through one central office.

"Visitors to the Office of Disability will be assisted by a specialised team to access information from a range of organisations, including the Australian and Territory Governments, local community and non-government support organisations.

"The services provided at the Office of Disability will make it easier for people to research and contact support organisations, and will streamline the information and referral process."

The Office of Disability includes an assessment room where people from outside Darwin can be assessed by visiting specialists such as physiotherapists.

As part of the Territory Independence and Mobility Equipment (TIME) Scheme, mobility impaired Territorians can have their needs assessed by a specialist and trial different equipment on site.

The Office will also provide information on concession programs, including the NT Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme, NT Seniors Card Scheme and the NT Companion Card Scheme.

*Contact: Maria Billias 0401 119 746*

