



MEDIA RELEASE

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Monday 22 October 2018

GOVERNER OPENS NEW SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE SITE

Sexual Assault Support Service (SASS) Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC today officially opened the new SASS Premises at 31 Tower Rd New Town.

Joining supporters, life members and stakeholders of the service, Professor Warner reflected on her law reform achievements regarding sexual offences in Tasmania and acknowledged the important work of SASS to support Tasmanians affected by sexual violence.

SASS CEO Jill Maxwell said the opening was an opportunity to ensure current and future clients know where the service is now located. Ms Maxwell also said staff and clients are pleased with the new space which is significantly larger and more accessible than the previous location at Patrick St in Hobart.

“SASS is very excited to have relocated and settled in to our new premises in New Town. We feel confident that our current and future clients will find our new building an inviting, calm and supportive space.”

Ms Maxwell also acknowledged the National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse given in Federal Parliament today and the role SASS plays in our community as a Redress Scheme Support Service.

For more information about this media release please contact SASS CEO Jill Maxwell on (03) 6231 0044.

Key SASS statistics to note:

- In 2017-18 SASS saw 938 clients, 25% of whom were children.
- SASS has seen a 24% increase in the average number of referrals to our service each year since 2013.
- We have seen a 166% increase in the number of clients seeking support to make a police statement and/or attend a forensic medical examination since 2013.
- The number of students, family members, carers and professionals we have trained annually has increased since 2013 by 367% from 1068 to 4991 people.

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