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FARE WELCOMES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER

The Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) welcomes Federal Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt's announcement of nearly \$24 million for diagnostic and support services for people with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) to coincide with International FASD Awareness Day.

Today the Government also reaffirmed its commitment to a national campaign on the risks of drinking alcohol during pregnancy, including FASD, which will be developed and delivered by FARE.

FARE CEO Caterina Giorgi says the Government's investment demonstrates its ongoing commitment to addressing FASD, the leading cause of preventable developmental disability in Australia.

"I would like to thank Minister Hunt for his leadership to prevent FASD, and to ensuring better diagnostic and support services for people living with FASD, their parents and carers.

"These initiatives will contribute to improved health and wellbeing of children, families and communities across Australia now and into the future.

"This new investment and the \$25 million announced last year for FARE to deliver a national campaign on the risks of drinking alcohol during pregnancy places Australia in a strong position to lead on FASD prevention and support.

"I would also like to acknowledge the continued support of Senator Stirling Griff, who advocated for a national awareness campaign.

"FARE looks forward to working collaboratively with the National Organisation for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (NOFASD) and a range of health professionals, community leaders and consumer organisations on the campaign.

"Together we can improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for our children, families and communities," Ms Giorgi said.

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MEDIA RELEASE

To receive updates about the national campaign, subscribe [here](#).

Caterina Giorgi is available for interview.

Media contact:

FARE CEO Caterina Giorgi – contact Adam Knobel 0429 291 120

The **Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE)** is an independent, not-for-profit organisation working to stop the harm caused by alcohol. Alcohol harm in Australia is significant. Nearly 6,000 lives are lost every year and more than 144,000 people are hospitalised making alcohol one of our nation's greatest preventive health challenges.

For over a decade, FARE has been working with communities, governments, health professionals and police across the country to stop alcohol harm by supporting world-leading research, raising public awareness and advocating for changes to alcohol policy. In that time FARE has helped more than 750 communities and organisations, and backed over 1,400 projects around Australia.