

MEDIA RELEASE

February 14, 2008

IPAA Queensland adopts Hannah's Chance as chosen charity

The Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) Queensland has announced Hannah's Chance Foundation, the charity established by swimmer Tracey Wickham following the death of her teenage daughter, as its chosen benefactor for 2008.

The newly founded charity was created by the world-record holder following the tragic loss of her daughter Hannah to cancer last year, and aims to raise awareness and money to help young people diagnosed with sarcoma.

IPAA Queensland, the peak professional body for all levels of the public sector, started their charity initiative in 2006 with the Royal Children's Hospital Foundation, raising more than \$2,500 for sick kids.

CEO Peter Rumph said the organisation was proud to assist the Hannah's Chance Foundation.

"Our young professionals group was keen to adopt a charity again in 2008 and some of the members suggested Hannah's Chance foundation as it was a new charity with a relevance to young people, as an organisation we understand the importance of giving back to the community and saw it as a great opportunity to help out the newly established foundation," said Mr Rumph.

"Hannah's Chance will be IPAA Queensland's chosen charity for the whole of 2008 and we hope this will mean it can increase the invaluable work it does in the years ahead," he said.

Tracey Wickham will speak about the charity at the IPAA Queensland Young Professionals 2008 Program Launch on February 19, the first event of the year to raise money for the Foundation.

IPAA Queensland views young professionals as an important part of the public sector and through its 2008 program of events hopes to contribute to the development of this important group of future leaders, while raising money for a good cause.

Young professional and IPAA Queensland Communications and Membership Manager Eden Platell said the series of events will be a great opportunity for networking and professional development.

"For both young professionals and anyone who works with young professionals, it's a chance to get together and discuss the future of the public sector," said Ms Platell.

"Our commitment to a charity that benefits young people will also hopefully influence more young professionals to get involved and contribute to the community," she said.

The launch event will also include presentations from IPAA Queensland Vice President Mr Ray Lane and IPAA Queensland Councillor and previous Young Professional Chair Paul Martyn.

Other events throughout the year will include the Annual CEO Breakfast, a great After 5 series and the new Young Professionals Leadership Forum.

Ms Wickham is one of Australia's most extraordinary swimmers, a five times world record holder in the 400, 800 and 1500 metre freestyle events. Tracey still holds the World Championships record for 400 metres, a record she has held since 1978.

At age 13 she was Australia's youngest representative at the Montreal Olympics and through her career has won two Gold Medals at the World Championships and four Commonwealth Gold Medals.

ENDS

Media contact:

Eden Platell

Ph: 07 3228 2825

Communications Manager

Fax: 07 3228 2888

Mobile: 0438 188 186

Email: eden.p@qld.ipaa.org.au