



## CENTACARE OPENS ADDITIONAL OFFICE IN BALLARAT

Centacare's Bridge Mall office was officially opened on Thursday, November 14, inviting local dignitaries, key stakeholders, board directors and staff to celebrate the occasion.

The office was formally opened with a Welcome to Country by Deanne Gilson, followed by a blessing from Bishop of Ballarat, Paul Bird CSsR and an overview of the services being delivered from the new location by the Chair of Centacare, Maureen Waddington.



Based in the Bridge Mall office is Centacare's Family Services program which comprises:

Family Services, assisting families with the necessary supports to strengthen relationships, build parenting skills and connect families with their community;

Cradle to Kinder, providing an intensive ante and post-natal support service for young parents and their families, commencing in pregnancy and continuing until the child reaches four years of age;

A Therapeutic Engagement and Family Worker, aimed to enhance the service provided to families through working with a focus on child safety, development and wellbeing and working with the most vulnerable and high risk families within the programs;

A Family Decision Making Convener, providing a child centered and family focused intervention, aiming to facilitate the strengthening of the family networks and resources to assist the family's capacity to respond appropriately to the needs, safety and wellbeing of their children and young people.

The continuing need for the support Family Services provides to the community has enabled an additional office for Centacare, to ensure clients continue to receive a specialised, well-resourced and responsive service.

To find out more information about Family Services, please contact Centacare on 03 5337 8999.

*Jenny Phillips - Marketing & Communications Officer*

*Photos below – Left: Bishop Paul Bird and Tony Fitzgerald, Centacare CEO and right: Bishop Paul*

