



Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC
MINISTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION;
COMMUNITY SERVICES; SENIORS & VOLUNTEERING
WOMEN'S INTERESTS

Our Ref: 36-01932

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BY:

Mr Will Hallahan
Executive Officer
Palliative Care WA (Inc)
15 Bedbrook Place
SHENTON PARK WA 6008

Dear Mr Hallahan

Thank you for your letter dated 29 May 2009 regarding the cessation of the funeral assistance program by the Department for Child Protection.

The Department's core role is to protect children and support families at risk. It will cease financial assistance for funeral expenses for claimed bodies from 30 June 2009.

I have been advised that the Department will continue to have a role in funerals where a person dies in indigent circumstances and whose body remains unclaimed. In these instances, a referral from the Public Trustee is received after an investigation into the assets of the deceased.

The Department's Financial Assistance Program will continue to assess clients who request financial assistance as a result of having paid for a funeral and who are experiencing difficulties in meeting daily living expenses.

Should you require any additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Paul Scanlon, Coordinator Client Support Services on telephone 9222 2646.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

2 JUL 2009

Robyn McSweeney MLC
**MINISTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION; COMMUNITY
SERVICES; SENIORS AND VOLUNTEERING; WOMEN'S INTERESTS**