



Operation CARE

LAUNCHED



Operation CARE demonstrates support for the men and women of the Australian Defence Force and the sacrifice that they and their families endure for the nation's benefit. It also reinforces the importance of the relationship between the RSL and services clubs, Australian Defence Force and the RSL community.

In the wider context it is designed to encourage the serving and retiring Defence Force personnel to become active in RSL and services clubs' activities and carry on the Anzac traditions of the clubs. The project has the full support of Chief of Army and has been endorsed by the Chief of Defence Forces.

The project will provide up to one week's rest and recuperation at sites throughout the country for selected Defence Force personnel and their immediate family, where the defence member has been repatriated to Australia as a consequence of wounds received in combat operations.

The aim of Operation CARE is to assist these defence personnel and their immediate family, to recover from the physical scars incurred from combat, by providing the family some quality time together in a relaxing and stress-free environment.

"This was just what we needed to help us reconnect again and give the two of us the chance to relax. We were both really grateful for this weekend away and I think most of all, it was especially nice to think that the RSL and services clubs and the military cared enough to do this for us. It is things like this that really help with retention of people in the defence forces."

The first recipient of the project

"This will certainly encourage retiring defence force personnel to be more active in RSL and services clubs to ensure the Anzac traditions of those clubs are upheld for future generations"

The second recipient of the project

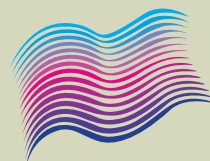
Operation CARE is an initiative of the RSL & Services Clubs Association which was proposed at a National Conference of RSL and Services Clubs in 2005. Its objectives have been refined through discussions with the National Office of the RSL and the Australian Defence Force.

The project is funded by member clubs of the RSL & Services Clubs Association and funding is claimable as CDSE Category 1 expenditure for Defence Force recipients based in NSW.

The RSL & Services Clubs Association is approaching like Associations in other states to support the project to assist our defence forces.

Pledges or contributions to Operation CARE can be made by sending cheques to the

Association made out to the 'RSL & Services Clubs Association – Operation CARE'. The fund is overseen by a Board comprising two directors from Association member clubs and the National Secretary of the RSL. The Board acts on recommendations by a panel comprised of representatives of the Army, Navy and Air Force.



RSL & SERVICES CLUBS



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