



Ending the isolation.

October 22, 2007

### **Pink Lady with Pink Ironing Board Wins Prestigious Award.**

Bull Creek mother, Julie Goor, is a pink lady with a pink ironing board (that doubles as a manicure table) who has been awarded the Senses Foundation highest honour for her work with the Pink Pamperers, which are part of respite services for the mothers and grandmothers of children who have a disability.

Mrs Goor leads a whole team of pink clad ladies who arm themselves with their ironing boards, to take manicures and hand massages to women who have the demanding task of caring for children who have a disability.

The pamperers are regulars at the Senses Foundation's mum's morning teas and respite weekends, where the mothers and grandmothers of children who are deafblind or deaf with an additional disability, can take a well earned break.

The Foundation presents its highest awards, the Teresa Way Awards, annually to recognise a person, business or a community organisation which has made a significant contribution to people who are deafblind and their families.

The accolade is named in honour of Teresa Way, a clerical officer for the WA Deafblind Association for seven years before her death. Teresa was deafblind and had a number of other medical complications, including hip replacements. Despite this she is remembered as an amazing person whose humour and positive attitude impressed those who knew her.

Mrs Goor said she was shocked just to be nominated but even more surprised to actually win the accolade.

"For the very first time I did this, it touched me like nothing else has ever done before," Mrs Goor said.

"It is just such an honour to pamper these women, some of whom have had such difficult lives and who pamper and care for others all the time.

"Some are mothers of very young children and some have adult children who they have dedicated their whole lives to caring for.

"It's especially symbolic that we nurture the hands that nurture.

“They are my absolute heroes and I tell my all my ladies that the person on the other side of the ironing board is the most important person and that they should take as long as that person wants to be there.

Senses Chief Executive Officer Debbie Karasinski said Mrs Goor was a very worthy recipient of the prize.

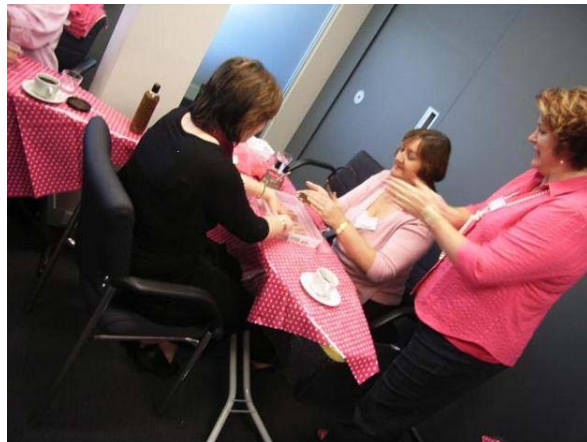
Mrs Karasinski said respite was just one facet of the many services the Senses Foundation provided to its clients.

Others include physiotherapy, occupational therapy and specialist communication services.

“All have a vital role to play in improving the skills and quality of life for our clients,” Ms Karasinski said.

“We receive considerable feedback from women attending respite activities about the feelings of support, camaraderie and of being valued that the pink pampering session instil.”

Also honoured with a Teresa Way Award was Bayswater Waves Indoor Aquatic Playground for providing facilities specially designed for people who have a disability and for its accommodating, flexible and welcoming staff.



Ends

For interviews or to arrange a photo contact Julie Goor on 9312 6171.

For further comment from CEO Debbie Karasinski contact her on 9473 5422.

For further information or assistance contact Senses Foundation Media Liaison Officer, Kerry Faulkner on 0432098878.