



11 Kitchener Ave Burswood, WA 6100,
PO Box 143 Burswood WA 6100
Phone 08 9473 5400
TTY 08 9473 5488
Fax 08 94735499
Email admin@senses.asn.au
Web www.senses.asn.au

December 13, 2007

Senses builds bonds between brothers and sisters

A tight knit crew of kids who have brothers or sisters with speech and hearing difficulties will gather at the Senses Foundation* on Monday, December 17, for a morning of cutting, pasting and partying aimed at ensuring they have support in trying times.

The craft Christmas party is part of Senses sibling support program and organised by the Foundation's social worker Karen Wickham in co-operation with the WA Deaf Society.

Ms Wickham said children who had a brother or sister with a disability often needed extra support, particularly when they reached an age where they realised their family was different to others.

"It's difficult thought because they often feel they can't show they are troubled and don't want to or can't talk to friends or parents," she said.

"As part of our sibling support program they are like members of a special club where they can share their good times and bad with people of a similar age and with similar experiences."

On Monday they will decorate special gloves symbolising the use of the hands and fingers for the deaf language Auslan. Then they'll cut and paste their way to creating eye-catching greeting cards before a Christmas party lunch at noon.

The event is one of many Senses run through the year specifically for the brothers and sisters of children with hearing and speech difficulties.

For more information contact Senses Media Liaison Officer Kerry Faulkner on 0432098878 or Karen Wickham on 0424 900 788.

* The Senses Foundation Inc is the primary advocate in WA for people who are deafblind or blind with an additional disability.