



10 July 2009

Low Income Earners to Benefit From Free Tax Help Centre

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton said he is operating a free Tax Help Centre from his Electorate Office to assist seniors, students, the disadvantaged or those earning less than \$40,000 to complete their tax returns.

"These are difficult economic times and some people within our community, who have used a paid tax agent in the past, may now be struggling to complete their tax returns," said Dr Nahan.

"The free Tax Help Centre operating from my office will allow people who need assistance to complete their tax returns and who meet the eligibility criteria to have a confidential one-on-one meeting with a trained Tax Help volunteer."

"The system has been operating for the last 19 years and it is ideal for people on low incomes, including students or for people who are completing their tax returns for the very first time."

Dr Nahan said the program, run in conjunction with the Australian Taxation Office, will operate from his office from July through to 31 October 2009.

"Local resident Mr Osmund Perera is the Tax Help volunteer who will be operating from my office. Mr Perera is very competent and has been a Tax Help volunteer for the last five years," said Dr Nahan.

"Volunteers undertake several weeks of training and the Australian Taxation Office provides them with all the necessary equipment to allow them to offer this service to the community."

Dr Nahan said more than 70,000 people each year are helped to meet their personal tax obligations by Tax Help volunteers.

"The volunteers can assist with establishing if you need to complete a tax return and with claims for family tax benefit, refund of imputation credits and the baby bonus," said Dr Nahan.

"They are unable to help with business tax returns, partnerships and trust matters, capital gains tax or rental property issues as these are more complex tax matters that require specialist assistance."

To book a confidential appointment to access the free Tax Help program or if you would like more information about the service please call Dr Nahan's office on 9457 1282.

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