



Joy Burch MLA

MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
MINISTER FOR AGEING
MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR WOMEN
MEMBER FOR BRINDABELLA

MEDIA RELEASE

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INTEREST-FREE LOANS FOR LOCAL BUSINESSWOMEN

Minister for Women, Joy Burch MLA announced today that women on low incomes who either reside or have a small business located in the ACT can now access interest-free loans of up to \$3000 to help them establish or further develop their current business.

“The ACT Women’s Micro-credit Program is an initiative that supports the ACT Government’s commitment to achieve equality for women in our community,” Ms Burch said.

“With these loans we can support the creation or expansion of small businesses and assist women into financial independence.

“It has been seen in many countries that micro-credit programs have been a tool in the alleviation of poverty.”

The program is administered through the Lighthouse Business Innovation Centre.

“The Lighthouse team, led by General Manager Anna Pino, has a wealth of business assistance and mentoring experience spanning many years,” Ms Burch said.

Lighthouse Business Innovation Centre is a not-for-profit business acceleration centre. Lighthouse ‘sheds light’ on the process of business development and commercialisation through one-on-one consultation, mentoring, referral and high-quality training and events. Lighthouse is supported by the ACT Government and Epicorp Limited.

Women who are interested in applying for a loan can contact Lighthouse Business Innovation Centre on (02) 6163 8300 or visit the micro-credit website: www.brilliantidea.com.au.

Further information is also available at www.women.act.gov.au.

Statement Ends

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