



## Media Release

30/August /21

### **15,000 reasons to smile - Singability creating connections through song and music**

The *Singability* program will provide an opportunity for people with disability in our community to engage in singing and music thanks to a generous grant from Lotterywest.

Community Living Association (CLA) has been successful in acquiring a \$15,000 grant to deliver this exciting collaborative community music program.

CLA CEO, Russell Nelson said *Singability* is a new initiative that reflects CLA's vision to empower people with disability to live the life they choose by providing choice and accessibility to new experiences.

"*Singability* is an exciting new program designed for people of all abilities to participate in singing and engage in a rich musical experience. Participants will also have opportunities to develop new friendships and feel valued and connected as part of the community by performing locally", he said.

"We are very excited about being able to provide this much needed opportunity in our community with the support from Lotterywest", Mr. Nelson added.

Rebecca Stephens, Member for Albany said, "It is great to see CLA receive this funding to deliver exciting new programs to the wider community."

"CLA provide a valuable service to our community and this program will enable them to deliver another new program," she added.

The first 6-week introductory workshops will be delivered by Albany based musician and choir director, Theresa Hughes, who has been involved in community music programs for 20 years and is currently musical director for three community-based choirs.

*Singability* is set to commence in October and run until February 2022, with weekly workshops being held on Thursdays at CLA's Centre for Excellence. Further information and registration forms can be found on the CLA website [mycla.org.au](http://mycla.org.au) or by contacting Community Development Officer, Claudia Simpson on 9842 3855.

The workshops are free, and places are strictly limited. Eligibility: Supported Participants over 16 years who have a Disability Support Pension (DSP) pension card are eligible to register for the program.

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