



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**23 July 2017**

**PARENTS CELEBRATE QUEENSLAND HOSPITAL PARKING WIN**

Parents across Queensland struggling with the prohibitive cost of public hospital parking will soon have the relief they've been campaigning for.

"Parents have told us what a struggle it is to afford parking at Lady Cilento particularly," said The Parenthood's Acting Executive Director Nicole Lessio.

"Parents with very sick children are spending all their time at the hospital so are often unable to work. Trying to find \$30 per day to pay for parking is just putting an even greater burden on these already overstretched families," said Ms Lessio.

Parenthood members have been campaigning for this change and are thrilled to see the Queensland Government's plan to make hospital car parking more affordable for struggling families.

"Parenthood members have signed petitions, written letters and emails and have made representations to their MPs to raise this issue," said Ms Lessio. "They're thrilled to know they were part of making this happen."

The announcement made by Minister Cameron Dick of \$7.5 million over four years is a very welcome one.

"We know that the promised additional 100,000 free or discounted spaces across Queensland will provide relief for families doing it tough," said Ms Lessio.

Victoria, NSW and Queensland governments have now committed to making hospital parking less of a burden. Parenthood members are working to get other States to follow suit.

"We want parents focussed on helping their sick children, not worrying about how to pay for parking," said Ms Lessio. "We're delighted that struggling parents will soon have one less thing to worry about."

**END.**

Contact: Nicole Lessio, Acting Executive Director, The Parenthood 0416 263 239.