



MEDIA ALERT
5 MAY 2009

Countdown begins to National Families Week 2009 **(10-16 May)**

National Families Week, Australia's premier celebration of the importance of families, starts this Sunday with the Week being held between 10 and 16 May 2009.

"This year, a record-breaking 125,000 people will participate in hundreds of local community events across Australia," according to Families Australia Chief Executive, Brian Babington.

"As well as celebrating family life in general, this year's special theme - '*National Families Week – celebrate how everyone makes a difference*' – encourages everyone to explore ways in which they can recognise, value and support the people who make a difference to the wellbeing of their family."

"The central aim of National Families Week 2009 is to encourage all Australians to think about and celebrate the many different people who make families united and strong and the many different types of families across society, each deserving respect and acknowledgement."

"Families are stronger if they share time together, doing things that strengthen family life", Mr Babington said.

National Families Week is run by Families Australia, Australia's peak, independent, not-for-profit organisation promoting the interests of families, on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. National Families Week coincides with the UN International Day of Families on 15 May, with its theme this year of "Mothers and Families: Challenges in a Changing World".

To arrange interviews with Brian Babington or National Families Week 2009 Ambassadors, contact Families Australia on (02) 6273 4885.

Go to www.familiesaustralia.org.au for a full list of NFW Ambassadors
or registered public events listed by State/Territory or NFW 2009 logo

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