



# The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and Western Sydney

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### PROMOTING SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH THE COMPANION CARD PROGRAM

Businesses in Castle Hill are being encouraged to support disability inclusion and become a Companion Card affiliate.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP said the program provides people with a significant and permanent disability access to a range of activities and events, by providing free entry to venues for their companion.

“People with disability should have every opportunity to participate in our community,” Mr Williams said.

“I urge all recreational businesses across our region to sign up to become an affiliate today and show their support to people with disability and their carers.”

Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Gareth Ward said the NSW Government is reigniting the campaign as a way of building more inclusive communities.

“This is also about being a good corporate citizen and helping people with disabilities to live life to the fullest,” Mr Ward said.

“Across NSW there are more than 30,000 Companion Card holders and we want businesses to take advantage of a significant market.”

The program has been helping people with lifelong disability participate in their community for more than 10 years, by providing free entry to events and activities for family members, friends, volunteers or paid carers.

Companion Card affiliates include entertainment venues, health and fitness facilities, transport organisations and more.

For more information about the Companion Card Program or to sign up, visit [www.companioncard.nsw.gov.au](http://www.companioncard.nsw.gov.au).

**ENDS**

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