

# Media Release

For further information please contact  
Marketing and Communications on 08 9439 0435



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tuesday, 29 October 2019**

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## **Ears2Learn offers kids a brighter future at Open Day**

**Children attending the Bright Futures Children's Services Annual Aboriginal Open Day on Tuesday 29 October were offered free hearing tests as part of the Ears2Learn project.**

Ears2Learn is a program that focuses on the health and development of children in the early years. It was conceived by *Connecting Communities for Kids* (CCK) and involves the training of early childhood educators, who work with young children on a regular basis, to screen the ears of young children and learn to write a comprehensive referral to a GP.

Kwinana Mayor Carol Adams OAM said that the program is an important one that will provide valuable insight into child development.

"Research shows that poor ear health is a significant factor in delayed development of young children from birth to age three," Mayor Adams said.

"This, in turn, affects children's ability to start school with the language skills necessary to learn how to read and write," she said.

"Many parents are unaware that their children are not able to hear and often don't find out until school commenced," she said.

"Through events such as the Bright Futures Aboriginal Open Day, Ear Bus WA is able to provide parents with vital information about their child's hearing."

Mayor Carol Adams congratulated the organisations who have partnered to deliver *Ears2Learn* to the Aboriginal community in Kwinana, including Communities for Children Facilitating Partners, Babbingur Mia and Bright Futures Children's Services.

Families attending the Open Day were also treated to games, stories, activities and giveaways, as well as morning tea and lunch.

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