

OPA committed to co-ordinated research



Di Chartres, Jeremy Moore, Andrew Wilson (Rotary), John Brayley, Andrew Alston, Jennifer Corkhill.

Research is integral if we are to ensure our Department is implementing best practices for our community.

The Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) has brought together a research group which aims to improve the quality and consistency of Mental Health Act decisions made by practitioners in the field. The project involves reviewing involuntary treatment decision practices, seeking consumer view points and reviewing relevant law.

Partners include John Brayley, OPA; Andrew Alston, Flinders University;

Jeremy Moore, Guardianship Board; Margaret Honeyman, Office of the Chief Psychiatrist Jennifer Corkhill (lawyer providing appellants perspective) and Di Chartres.

To fund the project the partners received and Australian Rotary Health Research Fund (ARHRF) service evaluation grant, initially \$60,000. Andrew Wilson from Rotary Australia recently presented OPA with a plaque to commemorate the receiving of the grant, which will no doubt benefit people with a mental illness and their families,