



**Safe Playgrounds Campaign – Travis McCarron Inquest
15 September 2009**

On Thursday 17th September at Tweed Heads Coroners Court both Hannah's Foundation, CEO Andrew Plint and the McCarron families will be in attendance for the findings and recommendations. It is now the goal of both parties to ensure that the recommendations are fully carried out and that Travis' death not be in vain.

Hannah's Foundation was invited by the Deputy State Coroner Paul MacMahon in April of 2009 to assist him in a submission relating to the case. Over 610 pages of court transcripts were read by the CEO Andrew Plint and a formal submission was supplied with full support of the McCarron family.

Hannah's Foundation and Travis' parents Kirsty and Ricky McCarron have supported the inquest process. All media are advised the McCarron's wish to have Travis' Inquest findings reported and comments from Hannah's Foundation will be available after the event.

Since the tragic death of little Travis both Hannah's Foundation and the McCarron Families have been advocating for "**safer playgrounds**". Playgrounds that are built or situated near water hazards should be fully fenced and appropriate signage implemented.

This view is also supported by Hannah's Foundation Peer Support Officer Jonny-Ann Reid who lost her son Nathan, at Forest Lake in 2006.

"Recreational playgrounds for children need to be safe and compliant for the safety of children". Ms Reid said.

"When Nathan drowned no one saw him in the water there were no barriers, there were no barriers when Travis wandered off either". She said.

"Two deaths in two years in a playground environment and these two deaths could have been totally avoided with fencing to both the safer playground areas and the water to prevent child access". Ms Reid said.

Hannah's Foundation Executive Officer, Katherine Plint said "the McCarron's have been advocating for safer playgrounds since their son died, and we as advocates for water safety and children fully support this campaign in memory of both Travis and Nathan".

For further comment please contact CEO Andrew Plint on 07 54652000 or 0412 742203