

## MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER JULIA GILLARD

## INDO-CHINESE ELDERLY HOSTEL - INAUGURATION PARTY AND FUNDRAISING CHARITY DINNER 2011

It is with great pleasure that I send my best wishes to everyone involved with the Indo-Chinese Elderly Hostel.

Since 2003, the Hostel has provided a very important community service; accommodation and care for aged members of the Indo-Chinese community. The professionalism of this service has been recognised by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Authority and the Australian Government, which contributes ongoing financial support.

The valuable role played by the Hostel provides Indo-Chinese seniors with a home; an environment to celebrate a lifetime of achievement and share a treasure trove of stories; a place to enjoy the company of families and friends; and an opportunity to continue practising their culture with fellow Indo-Chinese. It is exciting to know that plans are afoot to expand the Hostel's current capacity to 88 places.

The people of Australia have a special affinity with people from the countries of Indo-China and the Asia-Pacific region more generally. The important work of the Indo-Chinese Elderly Hostel helps to strengthen the people-to-people links that bind our nations together. It is also a worthy example of the outstanding success of Australia's multiculturalism; promoting the benefits that flow from a peaceful and diverse society.

With these thoughts in mind, I once again send my best wishes to everyone attending tonight's dinner and trust that significant fundraising can come from your enjoyment of this occasion.

The Honourable Julia Gillard Prime Minister of Australia