

# Carelink

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 163 Victoria Parade Fitzroy Vic 3065  
Phone 9419 9118 Fax 9419 9295

## memorandum

10 February, 2000

---

**To:** Mr Peter O'Callaghan  
**From:** Sue Sharkey, Carelink  
**Fax:** 9640 0335

**Re:** Notes concerning telephone conversation with **Mr Anthony Foster**

---

On the first of February a phone call was received from Mr Anthony Foster concerning his daughter Emma and the fact that she had a place in a Certificate for State Enrolled Nurse training program at the Mayfield Education Centre. Mr Foster was anxious to know if Carelink would be prepared to fund this course for Emma. The cost of the course is \$7,000.00 per year. Mr Foster referred to the fact that prior to Emma's going to the Compensation Panel we had said that we would seek assistance for Emma in other areas as well as for counselling. At the time Mr Foster did not request anything from Carelink because Emma was in an education system without fees and required no support.

I told Mr Foster that I was fairly confident that if the same pattern was followed that was used to make this decision in other cases, the fact that Emma had gone to the panel and been compensated was now going to exclude her from any assistance from the Archdiocese apart from counselling costs. I told Mr Foster that I would make appropriate inquiries regarding the matter and return to him with an answer on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of February. Mr Foster also took the opportunity to tell me about Katie who is still at Bethesda Hospital in a wheelchair and unable to walk but hopefully will do so within the next six weeks to three months. He said that Katie was now starting to speak which she hadn't for a long period of time and they'd had to call in a counsellor because the matters she wanted to address were around abuse issues experienced from O'Donnell.

Mr Foster also said that he was very angry with Peter O'Callaghan because he had not been sent copies of his decision concerning why Mr and Mrs Foster could not go to the panel as secondary victims and also about his decision concerning Katie's abuse. I explained to Mr Foster that I was surprised that he had expected to go to the panel because as far as I understood it, it was primary victims who were able to claim compensation and he said that nowhere in the literature did it say that compensation would only go to primary victims.

---

So that issue needs to be addressed with him and maybe you need to investigate the literature a little bit further.

I spoke with Richard Leder concerning my phone call with the Fosters on 7.02.00 regarding Emma's education and Richard was happy with me to say that Emma could not be funded at Carelink because she had applied for compensation and this I relayed to Mr Foster who again talked about his dissatisfaction with the process. I suggested that Mr Foster contact Richard Leder, he said that in previous discussions with Richard Leder he had come away with unsatisfactory results and therefore he didn't think that he could do anything by contacting Richard again.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Sharkey".

Sue Sharkey

---