MEDIA RELEASE

Help At Hand For Small Businesses in New South Wales and Victoria Affected by 2012 Floods

Widespread areas of New South Wales and Victoria were recently declared as a catastrophe by the Insurance Council of Australia (source: <u>http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/floods</u>), due to the devastating flood emergency that affected a large part of South Eastern Australia.

The Small Business Advisory Services – National Disaster Assistance (SBAS-NDA) program was set up in 2011 to support small businesses directly or indirectly impacted by all the natural disasters that have occurred in Australia since 2010.

The Belmont Business Enterprise Centre (Belmont BEC) was one of twenty-five not-for-profit business advisory organisations that received Australian Government funding to assist small businesses affected by natural disasters and will continue to provide national assistance 'virtually' through 'My business incubator' to those small businesses which require help.

Belmont BEC can immediately provide assistance to any small businesses directly or indirectly affected by the floods in New South Wales and Victoria. The complimentary and low cost services deliver support via one-on-one telephone assistance, email, mentoring through web meetings and group training webinars. All services are provided by specialist business advisors and industry professionals.

CEO of Belmont BEC, Carol Hanlon said, "Small businesses are constantly facing challenging situations in day to day business life, but when an unforeseen natural disaster strikes, it can be catastrophic for business owners. We are luckily able to help support those in small business that are doing it tough, with business mentoring and other services."

To find out more about the business advisory services offered by Belmont BEC or to find out about the project, log onto <u>www.mybusinessincubator.com.au</u> or <u>www.belmontbec.com</u>

For further information please contact: Carol Hanlon CEO Belmont Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) P| 08 9479 3777 M| 0417963231 E| carol.hanlon@belmontbec.com

> www.belmontbec.com www.mybusinessincubator.com.au Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc.

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