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MEDIA RELEASE

15 June 2010

GIRLS FACE THEIR FEARS TO FUNDRAISE FOR SILVER CHAIN

BHP Billiton Iron Ore have taken fundraising initiatives for Silver Chain to a new level as they pledge to match donations raised for two of their employees, Jodee Anderson and Carmen Sierke, to dive with sharks at AQWA.

Ms Anderson, BHP Billiton Iron Ore Governance Officer for Sustainability and Community Investment, and Ms Sierke, Contracts Officer, have been sponsored by the community to come face to face with 13 sharks including six grey nurse sharks over three metres in length, stingrays, turtles and 75 different species of fish at Perth's largest aquarium, AQWA.

Silver Chain Chief Executive Officer, Mr Chris McGowan, noted that donations are vital to ensuring Silver Chain is able to provide quality care to some 40,000 people throughout Western Australia, every year.

"It is great that BHP Billiton Iron Ore, their staff, the community and AQWA have come on board to support us in increasing the community's capacity to maximise its health and wellbeing. We are grateful to BHP Billiton Iron Ore for their significant contribution and thank Ms Anderson and Ms Sierke for their commitment and brave efforts," Mr McGowan said.

"Our services include home care, palliative and emergency care, family health care and other care services and we rely on donations and fundraising events to ensure we can provide this level of quality care in metropolitan, country and remote areas of Western Australia."

Ms Anderson notes that it took a lot of her courage to swim with the large sharks, but was all worth it.

"To be honest, before I got in the water, I was just praying that I'd make it out all in one piece. Once I got in though, I really enjoyed the adventure," says Ms Anderson.

Proceeds from the Silver Chain's Shark Dive Fundraiser support the introduction of new programs and research funding to develop innovative models of care and the purchase of equipment for clients. Donations also assist Silver Chain to contribute towards the establishment of new facilities including service centres, health centres, day centres and additional training for employees.

Silver Chain would like to thank BHP Billiton Iron Ore, who is kindly matching donations raised, dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000, until the end of July 2010, and acknowledge the brave efforts of Ms Anderson and Ms Sierke.

Ms Anderson and Ms Sierke took to the shark infested water at AQWA on Tuesday, 8 June 2010

Donations can still be made to the Silver Chain Shark Appeal Annual Fundraiser by calling Silver Chain's Donations Department on 9242 0233. Visit www.silverchain.org.au for more information.

Ends...

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