



Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative's Carmen Fox (left), Bridget Sharpe and Judith Taylor are thrilled to accept a funding grant from Bryan Doyle in August.

Boost for financial support service

DAVID CAMPBELL

MACARTHUR Diversity Services Initiative will continue to provide financial support services in the Campbelltown area following a state government grant.

Campbelltown state Liberal MP Bryan Doyle visited the service recently to hand over the \$36,142 cheque. The money forms part of the government's no-interest loan scheme which delivers vital

financial support services to residents. Mr Doyle said the grant was part of a \$315,000 boost in recurrent funding by the state government to support the scheme.

"The scheme provides interest-free loans of up to \$1200 to low-income earners in difficult financial circumstances so they can buy essential household or medical products and services," he said. "(The) no-interest loan scheme supports stability within

the community by helping families buy essential white goods for their home, computers for their children and keeps the family car on the road."

Mr Doyle said the scheme was a vital safety net for people who would otherwise turn to high-cost payday lenders, loan sharks and expensive rent-to-purchase schemes. The current funding period was due to end on June 30 this year but the government announced a 12-month extension.