

patron

At a reception held at Kirribilli House on 16 March 2010, Ability First Australia is proud to have officially welcomed **Ms Thérèse Rein** as its Patron.

Thérèse Rein is the Managing Director of the Ingeus group of companies, which has been a private provider of employment services for more than 20 years.

Founded as Work Directions in Brisbane in 1989, the Ingeus group of companies now operates from more than 70 locations across the UK, France, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and South Korea and presently employs more than 1,000 people. The company's head office remains in Brisbane.

Ingeus is committed to people flourishing. Each year Ingeus assists tens of thousands of socially and financially excluded people into independence through finding suitable sustained employment.

Thérèse is a trained Psychologist, with a Bachelor of Arts and Masters Qualifying (Psych) from ANU Canberra. She was awarded the Entrepreneur of the Year (2001), is former Director of the National Employment Services Association Board (Australia) and former President of the Australian Society of Rehabilitation Counsellors (Qld). She is an active speaker and participant in many special interest groups locally and internationally.

When her husband, Hon Kevin Rudd, was Prime Minister of Australia, Thérèse played an active role supporting the organisations of which she was patron and their causes. She continues to be active in the fields of disability, homelessness and maternal health.

Thérèse was awarded the prestigious Australian Human Rights Medal in December 2010 for her ongoing work and commitment to celebrating and improving the lives of people with a disability and their carers.

