

# The Hon. Jenny Macklin MP

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*Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs*

*Minister for Disability Reform*

## **Member for Jagajaga**



First elected in 1996, Jenny has been a prominent parliamentary member, serving as a Shadow Minister in various portfolios including for Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation, Family and Community Services, Status of Women, Health, and Social Security and the Aged, to name a few. Jenny was Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Australian Labor Party from 2001-2006.

In her first speech to Parliament, Jenny highlighted the need for strengthening active citizenship and community participation. Active citizenship, she argued, promotes equality of opportunity, collective action and input into public policy, and equality of access to employment, educational and health care services.

Prior to entry into Parliament, Jenny worked as a researcher at the Australian National University, an Economics Research Specialist at the Legislative Research Service of the Parliamentary Library, Research Coordinator at the Labor Resource Centre, Adviser to the Victorian Minister for Health, the Hon. DR White, MLC Director of National Health Strategy and Director of the Australian Urban and Regional Development Review. Jenny holds a Bachelor of Communications with Honours from the University of Melbourne.

Since becoming the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs in 2007, Jenny has overseen the apology to the Stolen Generations on behalf of the Australian Parliament and initiated a Review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response. Jenny is also responsible for coordinating the Government's efforts to 'Close the Gap', overcoming inequality that exists for indigenous Australians. In December 2011, Jenny was also appointed to the role of Minister for Disability Reform, a role that will involve oversight on the National Disability Insurance Scheme.