## Karingal merges into giant

MANDY SQUIRES

GEELONG disability giant Karingal has merged with community organisation Create, to grow bigger yet again.

Acting Karingal chief executive Robyn Bradshaw said a due diligence process had been undertaken over a number of months, which had paved the way for the amalgamation.

Like Karingal, Create is a notfor-profit community organisation providing disability, mental health and youth support services.

Both organisations are registered training providers.

Karingal, which has its head office in Geelong, also has an acquired brain injury support arm, ARCsupport, and a successful job network, MatchWorks.

It employs nearly 1500 people across Geelong, Melbourne, Colac, Warrnambool, Portland, Bendigo, Melbourne and the Mornington Peninsula.

Ms Bradshaw said Create staff would keep their jobs following the merger.

Services offered by the organisation in both Geelong and Werribee would also continue, she said.