



- Karouna Michael from KidzWish with Kiama Commonwealth Bank branch manager Anne Fagan, KidzWish executive director Chris Beaven, Albion Park branch manager Janene Lasek and Shellharbour branch manager Anne-Marie Galea.

## Bank's wishful thinking

THE KidzWish Foundation is set to expand their KidzWish Speech Therapy Program thanks to a grant from the Commonwealth Bank.

As part of its Staff Community Fund, the Commonwealth Bank gave KidzWish \$9600, which will help it increase the six hours of free speech pathology it provides for children each week.

"There are only two public speech pathology clinics between Kiama and Helensburgh and there is a

growing need for more public speech pathology services," KidzWish speech pathologist Jo Collier said.

"Currently we have enough funding for six hours of speech pathology each week and we have around 40 kids involved in that.

"This money will allow us to expand that program."

Though there are also private clinics available to parents, Ms Collier said there was still a need for the services

KidzWish offers.

"Having a child who needs speech therapy can make it hard to work, and private clinics can be quite expensive, so services like we offer at KidzWish, free of charge, are quite important when parents are told they may have to wait up to 12 months to get their child into a public clinic," she said.

The Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund is made up from contributions from past and present staff.