



NESST (New England Sector Support Team) Newsflash

Hi Everyone,

Welcome this week's edition of the NESST Newsflash. The table of contents is now interactive, so if you see an article you'd like to read, just press the Ctrl key and click on the link in the table of contents and you will be taken directly to the article.

New England **Sector Support Team**



Phone: 02 6772 3950

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Upcoming Training

NESST has a couple of upcoming training sessions planned. Please find invitations attached and stickyticket links to register.

Tamworth Transport Forum – Day One 13 November 2019

Frog Moore Park Retreat, 98 Bligh Street, North Tamworth

<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/89442>

Tamworth Transport Forum - Day Two 14 November 2019

Frog Moore Park Retreat 98 Bligh Street, North Tamworth.

<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/89443>



Community Basics and Orientation Training

20 November 2019

The Community Basics and Orientation training will be held on the same day at the NESST Office Beardy St Armidale. If you are attending both session you are welcome to join us for lunch

Community Basics – Armidale <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/92580>

Orientation – Armidale <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/92581>



Community Basics
Training Flyer Armd



Orientation

Training Flyer Nov 2

ACSA Weekly Issue No.137

Issue No. 137 | 10 October 2019 [View this email in your browser](#)

ACSA Weekly
Your peak body's take on the week in aged care





That's a wrap of the 32nd annual ACSA National Summit!



A huge thank you to everyone who joined us in Melbourne to hear and contribute to our discussion on purpose, people and performance.

There were presentations that were thought provoking and challenging, and there were presentations that reaffirmed the great work you are all doing on a daily basis and that ACSA undertakes with you on your behalf.

Please mark **14-16 September 2020** in your diary for next year's National Summit to be held at the **Gold Coast Convention Centre** in Queensland.

It was great to see and spend time with so many of you. Our intent was to bring us back to the fundamental truths and why we do what we do – our purpose, our people and our performance. ACSA Chair, Sara Blunt added persistence to the mix and delegates whole heartedly agreed!

It was a pleasure to announce the National Awards as part of the Summit. Our thanks and congratulations to all of the finalists and winners. Read on below to acknowledge and celebrate your colleagues' achievements.

Also in Melbourne this week the Royal Commission held hearings on diversity in aged care. The centre of the Commission's enquiries so far has been around the need for culturally safe care within the framework of person-centred care, and what best practice in this area looks like. More information about this hearing is featured further down in ACSA Weekly and a full Royal Commission Update will be with you as soon as possible after the



hearings conclude this week.

The Commission will sit again in Melbourne next week to enquire into the topic of the aged care workforce with Darren Mathewson appearing for ACSA on Wednesday.

Regards,
Pat Sparrow, CEO



ACSA's National Awards recognise some of the best providers and individuals in aged care

During this weeks' National Summit in Melbourne ACSA had the pleasure of announcing the provider and individual winners of the annual ACSA Aged Care National Awards.

There are seven categories that people and providers in the aged care sector have been nominated for. The ACSA Aged Care National Awards winners include:

- **Provider of the Year** - Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution, NSW
- **Innovation in Service or Design** - SwanCare, "Senior Citizen Partnership Program", WA
- **Rural, Regional, Remote Provider of the Year** - Feros Care, QLD
- **Distinguished Service** - Carolyn Wallace, TAS
- **Employee of the Year** - Dr Tim Henwood, Southern Cross Care (SA & NT) Inc., SA
- **Trainee of the Year** - Carol Goodger, Warrigal, NSW



- **Volunteer of the Year** - Jim Richardson, RSL Care SA, SA

ACSA CEO Pat Sparrow comments, "it's extremely important to share and recognise all the good work that is being done in our sector. Especially examples of high-quality care, innovation and positive solutions being demonstrated by our award winners. These winners are just some of the many in the sector that we should look to as shining examples of what aged care workers can contribute to our communities."

View more details on the provider and individual winners [here](#) and [here](#).



"We need to rebuild the confidence of the community" - Minister Richard Colbeck



"I'm keen to continue the conversations with the sector to evaluate the changes required to ensure people get the services they required and ensure the sector has the capacity to provide those services.", Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians Richard Colbeck said at the opening of the 2019 ACSA National Summit.

Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians Richard Colbeck opened the Summit on an empathetic note, understanding the stress the sector is under at the moment. Colbeck



noted that the sector needs to implement practical approaches to ensure the appropriate oversight for the aged care sector in the current climate. He acknowledged the importance of workforce, particularly that of RRR, and continuing to lift the capacity of the current aged care workforce - with people at the forefront of his mind.

Update on Royal Commission Melbourne hearing

The Royal Commission is enquiring into the issue of diversity in aged care this week, hearing from witnesses about the delivery of aged care to people from CALD backgrounds, people who are of the LGBTI community, veterans and indigenous Australians.

At the centre of the Commission's enquiries so far has been around the need for culturally safe care within the framework of person-centred care, and what best practice in this area looks like. Expert witnesses have testified that without an organisational commitment to culturally safe care, people of diverse backgrounds may not feel safe to disclose their background to their aged care provider. This means providers won't have a true understanding of that person's needs and therefore won't be able to develop a holistic and individualised care plan for them as part of their commitment to person-centred care.

Other issues raised have been around the development and implementation of trauma-informed care, system access challenges, and the ability of the current aged care funding model of ACFI and ACAR to adequately respond to the needs of older Australians with diverse backgrounds.

The Commission will sit again in Melbourne next week to enquire into the topic of the aged care workforce.

Scenarios involving physical and/or chemical restraint

On 2 October 2019, the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission released scenarios involving physical and/or chemical restraint. These are to 'help providers understand issues and their responsibilities around minimising the use of physical and/or chemical restraint'. The scenarios can be found [here](#).



NARI commissioned to examine quality of care in residential aged care facilities

The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety has commissioned NARI to investigate how older Australians are cared for in residential aged care, and to identify areas for improvements which could be implemented.

The research will look at residents' satisfaction with their care, and their views on their quality of life as well as care quality and complaints mechanisms.

NARI has joined forces with Ipsos and the Social Policy Research Centre to undertake the research. [Click here](#)

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The advertisement features a collage of diverse people on the left side. The main text is in a purple font. The ionMy logo consists of a stylized sunburst icon above the text 'ionMy' and the tagline 'Governance, Risk & Compliance' below it.

Scholarship for the Diploma of Dementia Care

The Wicking Dementia Centre, University of Tasmania is pleased to offer ACSA member staff a **100% HECS Scholarship** for the **Diploma of Dementia Care**. The next study period commences 28 October 2019. **Applications are NOW OPEN.** [Read more](#)



Humans of Aged Care - Bernadette Nash



"When you leave a client's home after providing a care service, they have a beautiful smile on their face and say "thank you" for a job well done."

Bernadette Nash is a Human of Aged Care. She works as a Home Care employee at McLean Care Community in NSW. Her role is providing help and assistance with personal care, housekeeping, welfare around the home including helping with meals, shopping, cleaning and transport. People like Bernadette are vital in the aged care workforce so we thank her for her contributions to the aged care sector.

Read Bernadette's story [here](#), or [nominate](#) a Human of Aged Care now.

See Me Know Me translations empower culturally diverse seniors to select providers

Selected material from See Me. Know Me, the popular campaign from Meaningful Ageing Australia seeking to empower seniors to connect with family and friends, and ultimately find an aged care provider who understands their needs as a whole person, has now been translated into several languages. All translated material is free to download - [find out more](#)

Residential Aged Care Funding Explained

The funding for residential aged care is a critical area for an organisation's financial success. Providers need to ensure they are receiving all the funding they are entitled to, while at the same time, provide clients with the support they need to make confident decisions about their aged care and retirement living options.

Gain an understanding of the financial complexities of the aged care and retirement living systems with an informative 3-hour workshop for Residential Facility Managers and Client Liaison staff.

- Wednesday, 13 November [Sydney, NSW](#)



- Thursday, 14 November [Melbourne, VIC](#)
- Monday, 18 November [Hobart, TAS](#)
- Tuesday, 19 November [Devonport, TAS](#)
- Tuesday, 26 November [Adelaide, SA](#)
- Tuesday, 3 December [Perth, WA](#)

[Find out more](#)

ACSA Legislative Alerts
Lawlex Premium

Summaries of changes to legislation delivered straight to your inbox in 24 hours.

ACSA member subscriptions are now available!

Say NO to Non Compliance

Leadership, Quality & Transformation – ACSA’s symposium about stepping forward

Four months into the implementation of the New Aged Care Quality Standards and in the wake of the Royal Commission interim report, Aged & Community Services Australia (ACSA) have put together a symposium to update, prepare and equip your organisation for changes to the sector.

ACSA Leadership, Quality & Transformation Symposium series has been designed for both residential and home care providers to hear from a variety of aged care stakeholders and learn how you can guide and drive your organisation through ongoing reform and get informed about transformation strategies.

- Sydney, NSW - **4 November** - [register now](#) - Save [Facebook event](#)
- Adelaide, SA - **8 November** - [register now](#) - Save [Facebook Event](#)
- Hobart, TAS - **11 November** - [register now](#) - Save [Facebook Event](#)
- Perth, WA - **14 November** – [register now](#) - Save [Facebook Event](#)

Follow us on our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) social media channels and stay tuned for updates!



We want to share your stories

ACSA's members are providing innovative and quality services to thousands of older Australians every day – and we'd like to share some of these stories with others through ACSA Weekly.

Please send us any of your stories that feature your services at their best, and make sure our email ascsacommunications@acsa.asn.au is on your distribution list for any media releases or updates so we can share the news with the rest of ACSA's membership.



ACSA's State/Territory News

[New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory](#)

[Queensland](#)

[South Australia & Northern Territory](#)

[Tasmania](#)

[Victoria](#)

[Western Australia](#)

Media Releases

9 October: [National Awards recognise some of the best individuals in aged care](#)

8 October: [National Awards recognise some of the best providers in aged care](#)



ACSA's Upcoming Events, Training and Professional Development programs

 ACSA Event  ACSA Training and Professional Development

-  18-29 October: [Retirement Living Management](#) (NSW)
-  16 October: [Lead and Manage Team Effectiveness](#) (TAS)
-  18 October: [SA Annual General Meeting](#) (SA)
-  23 October - 20 November: [Getting it Right](#) (TAS, WA, QLD)
-  24 October: [Beyond the Standards](#) (SA)
-  24 October - 28 October: [Standard 8, Organisational Governance Masterclasses](#) (QLD)
-  25 October - 13 November: [If it's not documented... it didn't happen](#) (QLD, WA)
-  29 October: [ACSWA Annual General Meeting / WA ACSA General Meeting](#) (WA)
-  29-31 October: [Workplace 'Buddy' Training](#) (TAS)
-  30 October: [Keeping Connected](#) (SA)
-  31 October: [Better Relationships - Greater Understanding](#) (SA)
-  4-14 November: [Leadership, Quality and Transformation Symposium](#) (NSW, SA, TAS & WA)
-  6 November: [LGBTI](#) (SA)



10 December: [SA Members Christmas event](#) (SA)

11 December: [WA Christmas breakfast](#) (WA)

[See all ACSA events](#)

[See all ACSA training & professional development](#)

Other Events

The Future of Aged Care beyond the Interim Report of the Royal Commission - Melbourne, 19-21 November



The **COTA & ACSA Future of Aged Care Beyond the Interim Report of the Royal Commission National Conference**, running in Melbourne from 19th to 21st November, will be the first opportunity to critically unpack and explore the Interim Report, with strategic insights from key industry leaders and experts. *ACSA members can get \$200 off the ticket price. Use the code CC*ACSA.*

Bentleys CareFactor Pitch Day - Brisbane, 11 December

An illustration of a laptop and a smartphone displaying the ACSWeeky website.

Missed an ACSA Weekly?
CATCH UP HERE

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ACSA Member Update 11 October 2019

ACSA Member Update



New report on how Australian residential aged care staffing levels compare with national and international benchmarks

Dear Debra,

The Royal Commission has released a report by the Australian Health Services Research Institute at the University of Wollongong ahead of the Workforce hearings in Melbourne next week. The report looked at how Australian residential aged care staffing levels compare with national and international benchmarks, and is available [here](#).

The report focuses on the USA Nursing Home Compare System, which uses a 5 star rating to define adequacy of staffing with ratings adjusted based on resident acuity. The report also includes comments on a similar rating system used in British Columbia which considers allied health staffing elements. Rating takes into account different staff mixes (nursing, allied health, care workers) meaning that based on your resident acuity you could receive the same star rating as another organisation regardless of the absolute numbers of any one occupation type (you could have more carers and less nurses or more nurses and less carers and still receive the same rating).

The report utilises data the University of Wollongong has from the development of the proposed funding tool for aged care services and concludes that if it were applied in Australia at present 57% of residents are in homes that would have a 1 or 2 star rating which is deemed unsatisfactory. Of the remaining 42.4% of residents, 27.0% are in homes that have 3 stars, 14.1% receive 4 stars and 1.3% are in homes with 5 stars. It then highlights that:

- To raise the standard in Australia such that all residents receive at least a 3 star level of staffing requires an average increase of 37.3% in total care staffing in those aged care homes currently rated 1 or 2 stars and will result in an overall increase of 20% in total care staffing across Australia.
- To raise the standard such that all residents receive at least a 4 star level of staffing requires an overall increase of 37.2% in total care staffing.
- To raise the standard such that all residents receive 5 star level of staffing requires an overall increase of 49.4% in total care staffing.



It also suggests that this is a useful model to refine and adapt in Australia to inform future staffing requirements. Staffing levels and transparency have been the subject of much community debate and legislative considerations nationally and at State level.

The report is clear that increasing staffing (and therefore funding) to meet the model does not address the viability issues currently being experienced. They also don't take into account salary increases required to improve attraction and retention.

ACSA was given an advance copy of the report confidentially as we are appearing at the Commission next week and are likely to be asked about it. The ACSA Board and management reviewed the report and developed a position which was submitted to the Commission yesterday ([access here](#)). In principle ACSA is supporting consideration and development of such a system in Australia in line with our public statement that the system needs:

- More staff to deliver the quality of care we want to deliver and that the community expects; and
- To provide transparent and meaningful information for consumers which will inform individual decisions as well as building trust in aged care services generally.

We have strongly supported the reports comments that additional resourcing will be required to increase staffing levels and that this will be in addition to funding to address the viability issues members are currently experiencing.

There is likely to be heavy media coverage of this issue next week. On Monday we will send you a proforma letter that you can use with staff, residents and families to explain what the report is about and put your position to them on this important matter. We will also make media comment on this on Monday.

This report is a potential game changer and is a more sensible alternative to address staffing concerns than a mandated ratio.

Obviously there are decisions that need to be made and considerable work to be done if this is to be introduced. ACSA will be there every step of the way representing your views



and advocating for the funding that would enable this to be implemented and create a sustainable aged care service system.

Regards,
Pat Sparrow, CEO

ACSA Member Update | 11 October 2019

[View this email in your browser](#)

 **ACSA** Member Update



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Regards,
Pat Sparrow, CEO



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ACSA Royal Commission Update 14 October 2019

ACSA Member Update

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

ACSA'S MEMBER EXCLUSIVE ONLINE PORTAL



Royal Commission Update - 28th Edition

Dear ACSA Member,

The Royal Commission was in session in Melbourne last week, focussing its enquiries into diversity in aged care.

Commissioners were presented with evidence from a range of aged care stakeholders from diverse backgrounds, including people from a CALD background, LGBTI elders, Aboriginal elders, veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and care-leavers or 'Forgotten Australians'.

How the current system caters to older people with special needs was under the



microscope this week, as were some best practice examples from aged care providers across the country.

Commissioners also sought insights into the concepts of culturally safe care and trauma-informed care, and why these approaches are vital to the delivery of care to people of diverse backgrounds.

KEY THEMES

1. **The centrality of cultural safety for people of diverse backgrounds within the framework of person-centred care.**

- Expert witnesses testified to the importance of cultural safety within aged care services for people of diverse backgrounds. One witness summarised that cultural safety is a “vital ingredient in making person-centred care effective”.
- The concept of cultural safety is about creating an environment in which people feel safe to disclose diverse needs and experiences without losing respect or dignity.
- Without an organisational commitment to cultural safety, people of diverse backgrounds may get stuck in a ‘cycle of invisibility’, where they do not feel safe to disclose their background to their aged care provider.
- Without this key information, providers won’t have a true understanding of that person’s history or a comprehensive picture of their needs. And without this understanding, they are not able to truly meet their client’s needs within a person-centred care approach.
- In this way, open and safe communication is at the heart of cultural safety.

2. **The need for aged care providers to deliver trauma-informed care.**

- Often people of diverse backgrounds have experienced greater incidences of trauma throughout their lives.



- As such, trauma-informed care that takes into account a person's traumatic experiences and responds to their needs is a vital part of meeting the care needs of people of diverse backgrounds.
- The Commission heard that the concept and implementation of trauma-informed care are not widespread within the aged care industry, although there are some best practice examples among providers.

3. The need for strong leadership and the importance of workforce culture to delivering culturally safe care for people of diverse backgrounds.

- Witnesses testified to the importance of leadership from the top when it comes to affecting the cultural change necessary to provide cultural safety. Representatives from several organisations described the approach they took to cultural transformation, stating that it is a resource-intensive and on-going process.
- Much evidence was also provided about the key role played by an organisation's staff in ensuring cultural safety for residents and clients. The need, therefore, for careful, values-based recruitment and extensive and on-going training were highlighted in order for providers to deliver care to people of diverse backgrounds.

4. Co-design is a vital element in delivering culturally safe care.

- Inviting participation in service conceptualisation and design from the target cohort was raised as an important component of developing culturally safe care that responds to the needs of people from diverse backgrounds.
- The lack of opportunities for people with special needs to participate in the co-design of aged care services was raised as an obstacle to improving cultural safety in aged care across the board by several witnesses.



5. The current My Aged Care system's deficiencies in facilitating access to services for people of diverse backgrounds.

- Many witnesses were critical of the My Aged Care interface and stated it was in fact an obstacle to people with special needs accessing aged care. Poor understanding of diverse backgrounds by call centre staff and the lack of a face-to-face component were given as examples of the barriers faced by people of diverse backgrounds when attempting to navigate the complex system.
- The Access and Support Officer model that has existed in Victoria under the HACC program was highlighted as an exemplary approach to providing more intensive guidance to people of diverse backgrounds who face additional barriers to system access than the wider population. The Commission heard that future of this program remains unclear, pending the conclusion of the Commonwealth's system navigator trial.

6. The limitations of the Department of Health's Diversity Framework.

- Many witnesses described the Department of Health Diversity Framework, a document created by the diversity sub-committee of the aged care sector committee, as a positive resource for providers when it comes to delivering culturally safe care to people of diverse backgrounds. However, as a guideline document only, compliance with which has no bearing on a Provider's accreditation against the standards, many stated it is a largely toothless mechanism when it comes to improving cultural safety across the industry.
- Counsel Assisting questioned Departmental witnesses about whether the Diversity Framework should form a mandatory part of accreditation. The response from these witnesses was that the quality standards already capture the diversity requirements adequately.

7. The lack of progress toward achieving adequate data collection and aggregation on the use of aged care services by people of diverse



backgrounds.

- Many expert witnesses pointed to the vital importance of data collection and aggregation on service use and system access by people of diverse backgrounds. Without comprehensive data availability, it is impossible to assess if aged care services are responding to the needs of these cohorts.
- The ongoing failure of the Department of Health to adequately collect data on special-needs cohorts through My Age Care was a topic of criticism by Counsel Assisting. Departmental officers stated the difficulty they were experiencing in retrofitting the existing My Aged Care system, which was conceived as a client management system enabling connection to services, into a platform for data collection and aggregation. They conceded work to pull data from My Age Care into a data warehouse for analysis was frustratingly slow. Counsel Assisting suggested this was the result of a lack of urgency from the Department rather than technical difficulties.

8. The lack of accountability of Approved Providers in relation to outcomes for people of diverse backgrounds.

- A recurring issue raised was the fact that age care providers could identify as providers of care to special-needs groups on My Aged Care, without this representation being subject to any external verification. Witnesses stated this step, intended to provide consumers with greater information on services available, was in fact a step backwards in terms of transparency.
- Similarly, scrutiny was applied to an aspect of the current ACAR funding model, in which residential care providers can apply and receive bed licenses on the basis of an intention to prioritize special needs groups for those beds, but are not followed up by the Department to ensure they are indeed prioritizing these groups and catering to their needs. Counsel Assisting labelled this a significant failure of accountability.



9. **Potential drawbacks of consumer-directed care in the Home Care Packages program on people of diverse backgrounds.**

- Another theme canvassed in some detail was the impact of Consumer-Directed Care reforms in Home Care Packages on people of diverse backgrounds. Many witnesses claimed that accessing a package under consumer-directed care was more difficult to understand and intimidating than previously, particularly for people with special needs.
- Counsel Assisting sought information on whether any impact analysis on special needs cohorts was conducted ahead of the implementation of Consumer-Directed Care in February 2017.
- Departmental witnesses took this question on notice, but pointed out that the policy intention was actually designed to improve access to care for people from diverse backgrounds, such as those from CALD backgrounds who now no longer have to wait for a package to become available with the ethno-specific provider of their choice, and that there is some data emerging to suggest their take up rates have improved since the reform.

[Click here to download detailed hearing transcripts](#)

NB: Evidence given was critical of ACSA & other provider peak bodies as they were seen to resist elements of the action plan. ACSA is keen to ensure diversity is well understood & supported and that providers are given flexibility to meet these needs in ways that work for their residents & clients and local circumstances

Member Update - new report on how Australian residential aged care staffing levels compare

In our Member Update released on 11 October ACSA incorrectly stated that a 3 star level of staffing required an average increase of 37.3% instead it should have stated **27.3%**.



Please find Member Update [link here](#).



Missed a Royal Commission Update?
CATCH UP HERE

ACSA Royal Commission Update | 14 October 2019

[View this email in your browser](#)

ACSA Member Update

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

ACSA'S MEMBER EXCLUSIVE ONLINE PORTAL



Royal Commission Update – Breaking News

Dear ACSA Member,

At its hearing in Melbourne this morning, the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety marked the passing of the Honourable Richard Tracey AM RFD QC. Commissioner Tracey died on Friday, 11 October, after a short illness. He was 71.

ACSA expresses its sincere condolences on the passing of the Honourable Richard



Tracey. We appreciate his work as a Commissioner for the Royal Commission into Aged Care quality and safety. His passing will be a great loss to the community.

Go to the link from the Royal Commission to [read the media release.](#)

The new Chair of the Royal Commission will be the Honourable Tony Pagone QC, who has recently joined the Royal Commission.

Regards,

Pat Sparrow, CEO





Disability Services Consulting

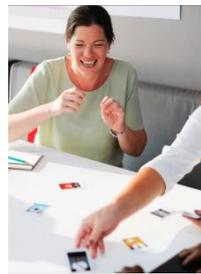


Everything You Need To Know About Service Agreements

If there is one thing we know here at DSC, it is that providers have a lot of questions about service agreements. To help out, Jess explores what must go in them, what can't be in them, who can sign them and more.

[READ MORE](#)

Upcoming Workshops



[Support Coordination: 2 Day Intensive](#)



[Quality and Safeguards: Practical Consulting \(Brisbane\)](#)



Telepractice – Not Just For “Far, Far Away” Places

For most people, allied health telepractice is viewed as an incentive for people in far, far away places- a bit of a fairy tale. But Angela explores the top 5 reasons why telepractice is actually a leading, contemporary disability practice for people in all parts of Australia.

[READ MORE](#)



[NDIS Housing and Living Options](#)



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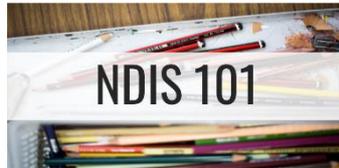


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Improving your grant experience



Open for applications - Boosting the Local Care Workforce Program Transition Assistance Funding Round 2

Organisations are invited to apply via an open process for Transition Assistance Funding Round 2 to purchase tailored supports including business advice, professional services and software upgrades, which will assist to build the disability sector capacity and service provider readiness in the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

A funding pool of approximately \$8,800,000 (GST exclusive) is available for this round.

Eligible organisations may apply for Transition Assistance Funding of up to \$20,000 (GST exclusive) to purchase tailored supports including business advice, professional services and software upgrades to assist in boosting capacity and capability as service providers.

Applications close at 11:00 pm AEDT on **8 November 2019**.

Information about applying for this round can be found on the [Community Grants Hub website](#) and [GrantConnect](#).

Closing soon - Economic and Community Participation (ECP) Grant Round 2019-2020

The ECP Program aims to build the capacity of the community to create opportunities for people with disability to contribute to community prosperity and participate in community life.

The objective of this ECP grant round is to improve the economic and community participation of people with disability across Australia.

The specific outcomes for the ECP Program include:



- People with disability participate in and benefit from the same community activities as everyone else.
- People with disability actively contribute to leading, shaping and influencing their community.

Applications close at 11:00 pm AEDT on **21 October 2019**.

Information about applying for this round can be found on the [Community Grants Hub website](#) and [GrantConnect](#).

Closing soon - Mainstream Capacity Building (MCB) Grant Round 2019-2020

It is the aim of this MCB grant round to fund activities that will enable:

- people with disability to use and benefit from the same mainstream health services as everyone else
- improved access and utilisation of mainstream health services where mainstream supports available.

The grant opportunity can fund activities that align with the following ILC activity type:

- **Mainstream Capacity Building (MCB)** - these are activities that build the capacity of mainstream organisations (in this case Health organisations), by making sure they have the knowledge and skills they need to meet the needs of people with disability.

Applications close at 11:00 pm AEDT on **21 October 2019**.

Information about applying for this round can be found on the [Community Grants Hub website](#) and [GrantConnect](#).