

NESST Newsflash

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the NESST Newsflash. If you wish to unsubscribe to this Newsletter, please reply to this email and NESST will remove you from our mailing list. ☺

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NESST Regional Forum

We still hope to have a face-to-face CHSP Forum planned for **17 November** in Nemingha at the Pavillion Function Centre (fingers crossed!). We will decide on this in early October.

NESST Free On-line Training Portal

A certificate is emailed on completion. The portal is now available to all New England Aged Care providers and all community transport projects in NSW. Please share with your staff and volunteers:

<https://nesstbasictraining.thinkific.com/>

An introduction to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme

Food Safety for Seniors

Dementia Basics

Duty of Care

Professional Boundaries

Confidentiality

An Introduction to Community Transport

Safe Driving for Community Transport

Driver Responsibilities and Transporting Clients - new

Let it Shine! – National CHSP Conference on-line 23 -24 November 2021

Let it Shine! is an online conference for everyone interested in the success of the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) in supporting older people to live a connected and fulfilling life. It's a practical and honest opportunity to hear the voices of consumers, volunteers, and staff from our diverse communities.

Save the date! Watch this space for more information.

CHSP Aged Care Reforms and Payment in Arrears Webinar with Troy Speirs from LASA 20 October 2021 9.30am – 10.30am

Save the date and time. We will get more information to you soon.

Social Support Syndicate

The next meeting will be **13 October 2021**. For more information contact Jen@nesst.org.au

Mandatory reporting on COVID-19 vaccination for all CHSP and NATSIFACP providers

Mandatory reporting starts next week on **Tuesday 5 October 2021**, for all Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) and National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program (NATSIFACP) home care providers on the COVID-19 vaccination status of the aged care workforce. Reporting is via [the My Aged Care portal](#) for providers.

The new reporting requires CHSP and NATSIFACP home care providers to record de-identified data at a service level on the:

total number of workers at each aged care service, and of those,

the number of workers at each service who have received a single dose of a COVID-19 vaccine

the number of workers at each service who have received all required doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Additional information is available on the [department's website](#) and support is available through the CHSP Emergency Support for COVID-19 [grant opportunity \(GO3877\)](#).

Approved provider application fee consultation

Under the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Act 2018, organisations seeking to provide aged care services subsidised by the Australian Government are required to be an 'approved provider'.

To become an approved provider, organisations must make a written application which is assessed by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (the Commission). Deciding that a business is suitable to provide aged care involves a significant assessment process.

In the 2021-22 Budget, the Government decided that businesses applying to become an approved provider of aged care will be charged a fee to recover the costs of the assessment of their application.

Accordingly, businesses applying to become an approved provider of aged care will soon be charged a fee by the Commission to recover the costs of assessing their application.

You can share your views by completing the online feedback form.

<https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/about-us/approved-provider-application-fee-consultation>

Trauma & Aged Care

Support and Information Hub

Many older people have experienced trauma at some point in their life. Aged care workers can also be exposed to trauma as part of their work. Information and resources are available for people affected by trauma and those who support them.

<https://www.phoenixaustralia.org/aged-care/older-people-families-and-carers/>

Diversity and Discrimination – free on-line training

A diverse and inclusive workforce is good for business. It encourages acceptance and respectful behaviour and minimises the risk of discrimination.

This course will show you how to promote diversity and prevent discrimination in your workplace.

It includes:

- information on how a diverse workforce can benefit your business
- tips to help you promote diversity and inclusion
- step-by-step guidance on preventing discrimination
- interactive scenarios to help you respond to a discrimination complaint
- downloadable resources and links to further information.

<https://www.fairwork.gov.au/tools-and-resources/online-learning-centre/diversity-and-discrimination>

FREE ADVISORY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Build on the great work you do by accessing this NSW Government funded service. Check out the [services provided](#) aimed at assisting small and medium NFPs strengthen capacity and build effectiveness.

- Access free consultancy services in governance, strategy, evaluation or financial growth;
- Get advice on how to choose a CRM that is effective for your organisation or how to migrate your files to the cloud;
- Get a free 'legal health check' or advice on employment matters;
- Upskill your staff in telepractice or provide coaching for emerging leaders;
- Have a strategic conversation on how to efficiently and effectively use extra funds that quickly need to be spent.

The seven organisations providing the services have expertise in all these areas and more.

Constitution Tool for NSW-based incorporated associations

Need to draft or change your constitution? Justice Connect have launched a Constitution Tool for NSW-based incorporated associations. Taking just 20 minutes, the Constitution Tool asks you a series of questions in simple, plain English about how you would like your association to operate. It then generates a customised constitution

[Read More](#)

The Carer Gateway

The Carer Gateway provides services for carers including counselling, respite care (emergency and planned), personal care, domestic assistance, coaching, connecting you with other carers through peer support, purchase of laptops and mobile phones, online skills courses and financial support.

There are additional services

[Read More](#)

New Palliative Care Portal

The [CareSearch](#) portal and interactive website is a federal health department initiative which aims to be Australia's major source of palliative care information.

CareSearch is designed to provide evidence-based best practice for help professionals, help patients and carers talk about death and dying and support informed planning and decision making.

The portal includes practical information, and specific resources for nurses, GPs and allied health professionals relevant to a variety of settings including the home.

It also has information tailored to issues relevant to patients and carers including living with illness, finding services, communicating with palliative teams and culturally appropriate care for diverse groups.

AIHW Report: Dementia in Australia 2021

Dementia is a significant and growing health and aged care issue in Australia that has a substantial impact on the health and quality of life of people with the condition, as well as for their family and friends. This online report provides a comprehensive picture of dementia in Australia, including the latest statistics on dementia prevalence, burden of disease, deaths, expenditure, as well as the use of health and aged care services among people with dementia *and* information on carers of people with dementia.

<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/dementia/dementia-in-aus/contents/about>

The COVID-19 Aboriginal Community Response Grants Program

Closes 19 November 2021

Small grants are available to support Aboriginal communities across NSW reduce their risk of being exposed to COVID-19 and enable them to manage the impacts of the pandemic. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for:

- Social and emotional wellbeing support
- Keeping communities connected
- Responding to immediate needs
- Advocacy and information

APPLY NOW

To apply for funding, you will need to complete and submit the application form through <https://aboriginalaffairs.smartygrants.com.au/>

Mental Moments

The 2021 Mental Moments Show is a month-long initiative designed to continue the conversation on the importance of mental health in aged care. The show will be broadcast throughout Mental Health Month (October)

Tune in everyday at 2:00pm (AEST) to view messages from special guests, hear tips and advice from mental health experts on simple ways you can boost your mental health and enjoy our weekly live show every Friday.

A range of resources has been developed for aged care providers to draw on to promote the Mental Moments Show and engage with your audience. More resources will be added as we lead up to the Show and throughout October.

<https://www.mentalmoments.com.au/>

Indigenous Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Clearinghouse

The Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Clearinghouse has been established to enhance and improve access to the Indigenous mental health and suicide prevention evidence base. The Clearinghouse is managed by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) through funding from DoH. The AIHW works closely with Indigenous stakeholders and experts through the Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Clearinghouse Steering Committee to develop content for the Clearinghouse. The Steering Committee is chaired by Professor Pat Dudgeon and has representation from researchers, service providers, advocates, and government.

Information on the Clearinghouse will be regularly updated. Additional publications, data and research and evaluation material will be added as they become available.

<https://www.indigenoumhspc.gov.au/>

Inside Aged Care 2021

This report tracks national perceptions of the aged care industry. This is the 4th edition of the report. Timing of the reports is as follows:

- 2018 – Pre-Royal Commission
- 2019 – During Royal Commission
- 2020 – COVID-19
- 2021 – Post Royal Commission & ongoing COVID-19 challenges

The data highlights movement in public sentiment across these vitally important time periods. The report covers a wide range of subjects that can be used by multiple audiences to build policy, guide investments, and prioritise targeting approaches.

https://fasterhorses.consulting/wp-content/uploads/FH_Inside-Aged-Care_2021_Preview_230821.pdf

Keeping Well During the Pandemic’ – In-language online webinars for CALD Communities

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on our mental health and wellbeing, leaving many of us struggling with stress, sadness and many other emotions and experiences. As part of October’s Mental Health Month, the Transcultural Mental Health Centre (TMHC) is organising a series of online webinars in multiple languages for members of CALD Communities.

The webinars will focus on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our mental health and wellbeing, how to recognise symptoms of mental distress in ourselves and others and provide information on where to seek help. The webinars will also provide tips and skills on how to manage stress and keep well during this challenging time.

The webinars will be in-language or in English with an interpreter.

<https://eccnsw.org.au/keeping-well-during-the-pandemic-in-language-online-webinars-for-cald-communities/>

Managing Mandatory Vaccine Policy for NSW-based Community Organisations – Justice Connect's on demand webinar

Mandatory vaccination policies are a hot topic right now and keeping workers and clients safe is the number one priority. However, there’s a complex maze of legal requirements to navigate when it comes to mandating employees to be vaccinated - like public health orders, WHS obligations, as well as anti-discrimination and industrial relations laws. Justice Connect’s [free on demand webinar](#) explains the issues in ways that are easy to understand.

The Fair Work Ombudsman and SafeWork Australia have also published useful resources:

- [Fair Work Ombudsman guidance on COVID-19 vaccinations](#)
- [Safe Work Australia guidance on COVID-19 Information for workplaces](#)

Retain Volunteers - 26 October 2011, Online

The Centre for Volunteering Cost: \$0-\$145.

Does your organisation struggle to retain volunteers or do they need to review their approach to retaining volunteers? Volunteer retention is one of the most challenging aspects of working in the volunteering sector. Whether you are a Volunteer Manager or working in a Volunteer Involving Organisation creating strong volunteer programs through effective retention is so important for the productivity, stability and culture of your organisation; not to mention it keeps costs down. Regular evaluation of your organisation's volunteer strategy and practices is an essential part of effective volunteer management.

<https://www.volunteering.com.au/event/retain-volunteers-with-penny-york/>

Commonwealth Governments fact sheet on payment in arrears and unit costing

This fact sheet has been developed to provide CHSP providers with information on future reforms, payment in arrears and unit prices.

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/commonwealth-home-support-programme-chsp-payment-in-arrears-and-unit-pricing-fact-sheet>

Cultural Diversity in Ageing videos

The Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing has launched two good practice videos for the aged care sector.

- Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion
- Innovative Approaches to Inclusive Practice

In the videos, leaders in the aged care sector cover:

- their vision and experiences for culturally safe and appropriate aged care
- some of their processes, learnings and strategies for improvement
- positive outcomes resulting from their commitment to diversity and inclusion for all older people
- innovations as a response to COVID-19

<http://www.culturaldiversity.com.au/good-practice-stories>

Introduction to the National Standards for Volunteer Involvement - 14

October 2021, Online

The Centre for Volunteering

Cost: \$0-\$110.

The National Standards for Volunteer Involvement provide a sound roadmap to assist you in improving the performance of your volunteer-involving organisation.

This workshop will cover:

- An overview of the 8 National Standards for Volunteer Involvement
- The benefits and barriers to implementing the Standards
- Gap analysis against your organisation's current practice.

Participants will be provided with an invaluable tool to facilitate a self-audit and a copy of the Implementing the National Standards Guide and Workbook upon completion.

[More information and registration.](#)

Great online activities and video resource site

Alzheimer Scotland Action on Dementia has produced a fantastic online library of guided activities resources. It has exercises, book reading, music, singing, art, meditation, cooking, and gardening.

<https://www.alzscot.org/guided-activities>

Dementia Essentials – FREE - CHSCAGE005 Provide support to people living with dementia - Tamworth February 2022

This nationally accredited course is designed to assist workers supporting people living with dementia. Strategies are explored to assist with good communication, planning, developing appropriate activities and understanding behaviour in people living with dementia. Suitable for all staff working with or caring for people with dementia.

Dates 11, 18, 25 February 2022

Time: 9am – 3 pm

Cost: Fully funded

Email Frances.Brown@dementia.org.au Phone: 02 88754664

FREE Training - Ageing and Disability Commission Website

These training resources are designed to improve the detections and response to abuse, neglect and exploitation of older people and adults with disabilities in their family, home, and community.

Module one is an introduction to the above and takes around 20mins. **Module two** will be released in the upcoming weeks and will **help organisations in strengthening organisations Policies and Procedures**, concerning workplace practice, creating reporting culture in the workplace and monitoring the effectiveness.

<https://www.ageingdisabilitycommission.nsw.gov.au/tools-and-resources/training>

Aged Care Reform Webinar Series

To view the recording of the webinars, click [here](#)

CRANA - Bush Support

Toll-free 24hr Telephone Counselling every day of the year - call 1800 805 391 - for ALL remote health workers/service providers and their families <https://crana.org.au/support>

Bush Support provide a range of programs and resources to assist remote workers and their families in managing the stress of living and working in a remote location. The program includes an anonymous, nationwide 24-hour telephone debriefing and support service staffed by psychologists with remote experience.

Department of Health Updates

Keep up to date – find all the updates here:

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/newsletters>

NSW COVID Rules

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/rules>

Health Direct Covid Restriction Checker

<https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/covid19-restriction-checker/activity>