

NESST Newsflash

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the NESST Newsflash. *Updated or new information is gold and italic and gold in the table of contents.*

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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Current Forums and Training

Upcoming Events and Training

The Calendar of Events is sent out twice a year. Contact info@nesst.org.au if you would like to receive a copy of the calendar or visit our website [Training and Events – NESST](#)

Updated - NESST Free On-line Training Portal

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:

A certificate of completion is emailed on completion.

To access the resources please follow this link: <https://nesstbasictraining.thinkific.com/>

- An introduction to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme
- Food Safety for Seniors
- Dementia Basics
- Duty of Care
- Professional Boundaries
- Planning ahead tools for the future legal, health and financial decisions of NSW residents
- Confidentiality
- An Introduction to Community Transport
- Safe Driving for Community Transport
- Driver Responsibilities and Transporting Clients
- Introduction to Good Governance for Community Aged Care Services

Are there any topics you would like included in the Training Portal? Send an email with suggestions.

News from the New England CHSP Forum

Anne Liddell from [ACSA](#) and Susan Scowcroft from the [NSW Community Services and Health ITAB](#) presented at the forum. Their presentations are attached. A few matters to mention:

- If you are a current ACSA or LASA member your membership will transfer across to ACCPA*
- No information on the future member fee structure yet*
- NESST will keep everyone updated on changes to qualifications and proposal to make accredited training mandatory*
- ITAB site worth a visit to learn how training is developed*

RAS and ACAT provided a valuable update, with highlights being:

- High assessment and re-assessment numbers for both RAS services*
- ACAT wait times remain high with 280 people on the waiting list*
- Wait times currently 12 to 14 weeks for ACAT assessment*
- High demand for hospital-based assessments for ACAT*
- [geat2GO](#) alleviating wait times for equipment that doesn't require an OT assessment*

Department of Health Updates

COVID-19 – Other support and program initiatives for CHSP providers

The Department has issued updated advice on Changes to CHSP flexibility provisions. [See here.](#)

The [COVID-19 – Other support and program initiatives for CHSP providers](#) factsheet has also been updated, as has the [COVID-19 and the Commonwealth Home Support Programme – information for clients, families and carers](#) fact sheet.

These links will take you to the relevant Department of Health page, where the documents can be downloaded in PDF or Word format.

Updated - My Aged Care Provider Specialisation Verification

Applications open on 27 June 2022 for the Specialisation Verification Framework. Information on the Framework is available [here](#). The final framework, in Word or PDF is on this [page](#).

The final report from Australian Healthcare Associates (AHA), outlining the results of their review is available here: [Review and development of a specialisation verification framework for My Aged Care – Final report | Australian Government Department of Health](#)

Recruitment around the Region

Aspire for Life recruiting for an assessor now, based in either Tamworth or Armidale. Learn more and apply here: <https://www.aspire4life.com.au/careers/8656176>

Hunter New England Health recruiting for an assessor now in Inverell. Learn more and apply here: [Home Support Assessor - Regional Assessment Service | I work for NSW](#)

Armidale Care for Seniors recruiting for a Social Activities Coordinator now. Contact admin@armidalecareforseniors.org.au for an information package.

Contact us at info@nesst.org.au if you would like a position vacant added to the NewsFlash.

COVID-19

Coronavirus and Australian workplace laws

The Fair Work Ombudsman provides Information on workplace laws, obligations and entitlements for employers and employees during the coronavirus pandemic.

The link is: [Coronavirus and Australian workplace laws – Fair Work Ombudsman](#)

COVID-19 in NSW

Up to date COVID-19 information and resources for NSW available [here](#).

Full statistics on COVID-19 infections in NSW available [here](#).

And targeted advice for aged care providers available [here](#).

Grants and Funding Opportunities

Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) – Emergency support for COVID-19

The objective of this grant (number GO3877) is to provide assistance through limited financial support to existing CHSP service providers to enable them to respond to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances that directly impact on existing service delivery arrangements that are beyond the control of the grant recipient.

Closing date for the grant is 30 June 2022. Find more information and apply here:

<https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/Show?GoUuid=6c903322-0521-8405-245c-dd56c93b7960>

Where providers incur additional costs in supporting increased hospital discharges, due to COVID-19, they can apply for funding under this grant.

Commonwealth Home Support Programme Assistance with Increased Fuel Costs for CHSP - Transport Providers and Associated Transport Costs

Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) Transport service providers and CHSP providers where Transport costs are more than 5 per cent of their organisation's annual grant funding may apply for additional one-off funding under the CHSP Ad Hoc Proposals Grant Opportunity (GO4265).

Closing date for the grant is 30 June 2022. Find out more information and apply here:

[Current Grant Opportunity View - GO4265: GrantConnect \(grants.gov.au\)](#)

GrantConnect

[GrantConnect](#) is the Australian Government's grants information system. From 22 February 2022 GrantConnect is the single source of information for grant opportunity documents.

Australia Post 2022 Community Grants

Not-for-profit groups are invited to apply for [grants](#) of up to \$10,000, for local projects that connect individuals and communities to help improve mental health and mental wellbeing. **Applications close 3 July 2022.**

Other Resources and Information

National Minimum Wage

Information on the increase to the national minimum wage can be viewed on the Fair Work Commission website [here](#). Pay Guides can be viewed [here](#), though not yet updated to reflect the NMW. Subscribe to email updates [here](#) to be notified when pay guides are updated and other information relevant to the SCHADS Award.

World Elder Abuse Day

It was World Elder Abuse Day on 15 June. Toolkits and flyers are available from the NSW Ageing and Disability Commission [here](#), for use year round and two online training modules can be accessed [here](#).

The Australian Human Rights Commission website has information and resources available here: [Elder abuse | Australian Human Rights Commission](#)

And a reminder the key recommendations from the Australian Institute of Family Studies National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study can be found [here](#).

Carer Skills Courses

The Carer Gateway has a range of short courses for carers, to help improve their health and wellbeing. The short courses provide practical tips and information relevant to their caring role. Share with your clients who are carers. Go here: [Carer Skills courses | Carer Gateway](#)

Health Portfolio

Information on who's who in the Australian Government Health Portfolio is available here: [Health | Directory](#)

- Minister for Health and Aged Care - The Hon. Mark Butler MP
- Minister for Aged Care (and Minister for Sport) - Ms. Anika Wells
- Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care - Ms. Ged Kearney MP
- Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health - Ms. Emma McBride MP
- Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health - Senator the Hon. Malarndirri Mccarthy

ACCPA (Aged & Community Care Providers Association) Media Release

ACCPA, the newly formed aged care industry body, issued a media release on 31 May welcoming the new Aged Care Ministers and calling for dialogue on the aged care reform agenda. Read the full media release here: [ACCPA 2205 MR New Aged Car Ministers \(acsa.asn.au\)](#)

Aged Care Workforce Industry Council Workforce Planning Tool

ACWIC has developed a planning tool for aged care providers, to assist in identifying workforce gaps and plan your workforce more effectively. The tool is a web-based application and is free.

Visit the [ACWIC website](#) or go direct to the [Planning Tool](#).

My Aged Care Portal - Profile tips for Commonwealth Home Support Programme providers

The My Aged Care website now includes My Aged Care Portal tips and tricks for CHSP Providers. There is information about what to include in your portal information as well as guidance on how to make changes. Link to the page is: [Profile tips for Commonwealth Home Support Programme providers | My Aged Care](#) The My Aged Care Provider Portal User Guide can be viewed and downloaded [here](#).

Services Australia Aged Care Support & Aged Care Specialist Officers

Assistance is available at all Services Australia Centres for older people, with:

- Accessing aged care services
- Providing support to use the My Aged Care website
- Referrals to the My Aged Care contact centre
- Connection with an Aged Care Specialist Officer if there's one in your area.

An ACSO will be commencing in Tamworth shortly. More information about support for older people from Services Australia and the ACSO program is available here: [How we can help you with My Aged Care face-to-face services - My Aged Care face-to-face services - Services Australia](#)

Alternative housing models for precariously housed older Australians

The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute commissioned the University of South Australia, RMIT, Curtin University and Flinders University to investigate potential alternative housing models for older Australians, to increase the supply of affordable housing. Read the report here:

[https://www.ahuri.edu.au/research/final-reports/378?ct=t\(ACSAWeekly_26.05.2022\)](https://www.ahuri.edu.au/research/final-reports/378?ct=t(ACSAWeekly_26.05.2022))

People using aged care – 2020-2021

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has released a fact sheet that includes key data on people using aged care 30 June 2021. The fact sheet presents data on a range of topics including aged care use by age and sex, use since 2011; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians using aged care; remoteness; culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

<https://www.gen-agedcaredata.gov.au/Topics/People-using-aged-care>

New NCOSS research reveals red tape pressure on frontline services

This week NCOSS released their latest research '[The High Cost of Doing Business – administrative and management overload for smaller NGOs](#)', undertaken in conjunction with Ask Insight. It uses a case study approach to highlight the increasingly complex operating environment for small to medium-sized NGOs and the growing administrative burden they bear, exacerbated by COVID and other disasters.

'Going Green' Guide for NFPs

This [help sheet](#) by the Institute of Community Directors Australia outlines hundreds of initiatives you can implement across 10 areas of your organisation, from adoption of renewable energy and electric car fleets to everyday actions to drive down your environmental footprint.

Changes to the SCHADS Award

Information about changes to the SCHADS Award from 1 July 2022 is available from the Fair Work Ombudsman here: [Fair Work Ombudsman SCHADS Award changes](#)

Centre for Social Impact's Indicator Engine

Amplify Social Impact (Amplify) provide a range of solutions to help the social sector measure, understand, and achieve social change. They are launching The Indicator Engine, which is the first consistent, evidence-backed, and easy-to-use impact measurement tool available to the Australian for-purpose sector for free or at a low-cost (depending on the type and size of your organisation).

Learn more about Amplify here: [Amplify Social Impact | Amplify Social Impact \(csi.edu.au\)](#)

Justice Connect – Free Constitution Tool

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.

Find out more or use the tool here: [A Constitution Tool helping NSW-incorporated associations – Justice Connect](#)

Free Governance Health Checks

Does your community organisation need a governance refresh? Justice Connect Not-for-profit Law are offering free Governance Health Checks to eligible not-for-profit organisations in the social services and health sectors and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations based in NSW, thanks to the NSW Government's Social Sector Transformation Fund.

Find out more information and apply here: [SSTF: Governance Health Checks | Not-for-profit Law @ Justice Connect \(nfplaw.org.au\)](#)

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. Follow this link for more information: <https://www.phoenixaustralia.org/aged-care/>

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.

Training Resources

Links and information about on demand and ongoing training.

Swinburne Webinar Series on Ageing – Friday afternoon!

Swinburne University will be hosting a webinar on Friday afternoon on Recognising and Responding to Elder Abuse. [Register here.](#)

You can follow Swinburne on Eventbrite and receive notifications about future webinars in their series on ageing.

Statement of Attainment in Work Effectively in Trauma Informed Care

TAFE NSW is offering CHCMHS007 Work effectively in trauma informed care unit of competency online. This training is fully subsidised for some students. Find out more [here.](#)

Recognise Respond Refer

Free training is available from DV-Alert on recognising the signs of domestic violence and knowing what to do next. In some instances, assistance with the cost of travel for face to face attendance and backfilling of positions is available. Learn more here: [DV-alert Homepage \(dvalert.org.au\)](http://dvalert.org.au)

CHSP Reablement Community of Practice

Have you joined the Community of Practice? The Reablement Community of Practice was launched by the Department of Health in November 2020 and is a tool for CHSP providers to learn, share and engage with other providers across the CHSP sector.

Join here: [Reablement Community of Practice - Reablement Community of Practice \(more-good-days.com.au\)](http://ReablementCommunityofPractice-more-good-days.com.au)

Governing for Reform in Aged Care Program: Provider governance

In response to the Royal Commission’s final report [Care, Dignity and Respect](#), the Australian Government is launching an innovative and highly tailored learning program for aged care leaders.

The Governing for Reform Program, led by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, will support approved providers to get ahead of reform – strengthening their governance, policies and processes,

leading change from the top and providing practical tools and guidance. The Commission encourages all governance bodies, boards, and aged care leaders to participate in the program to be part of a collective drive to transform the aged care sector.

This learning program is available for CHSP. The enrolment page does reference home care approved providers but once you begin registration you select CHSP.

[Enrol now](#) for the free Governing for Reform Aged Care program.

Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

Have you claimed your 4 free registrations for the Commission's ALIS learning platform? Commonwealth-funded aged care services have been offered up to four free registrations for each service location. **These free registrations are available up until 1st July 2022.**

Learn more and register here <https://learning.agedcarequality.gov.au>

Justice Connect

Watch live and on demand webinars on starting and running a not-for-profit organisation on the Justice Connect website. The webinars are aimed at small to medium not-for-profit organisations and presented by lawyers and guest presenters. Find information on upcoming webinars and access to recordings here: <https://www.nfplaw.org.au/training/webinars>

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.

[Diversity and discrimination – Fair Work Ombudsman](#)

Dementia Training (FREE)

Highly recommended range of short (10-30 minute) and long (3 hours) training courses on a wide range of topics related to dementia. Certificate on completion.

Find out more here: [Online Dementia Courses | DTA](#)

Suicide Prevention for Seniors Program (NSW)

The Suicide Prevention for Seniors Program is funded by the NSW Government and presented by Anglicare. To be eligible for this free training you need to be working with older people and be based in NSW. If you are interested, please email Program Coordinator Nancy Gewargis at nancy.gewargis@anglicare.org.au or visit the [Anglicare website](#).

Emergencies and Natural Disasters

Natural Disaster Resources for Community Groups

Services Australia has released an eKit to help community groups support people affected by natural disasters. It includes information on financial support and mobile services, and it's available in 20 languages.

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/sites/default/files/natural-disaster-resources-ekit.zip>

NSW Government disaster recovery and relief

Information on disaster relief and support is available here: [Disaster relief and support | NSW Government](#)

Disaster Assist

Australian Government website with information about available support during disasters, as well as a range of resources. The link is [Disaster Assist](#)

Links

NESST Website

Visit the website for more information about our organisation.

[NESST – New England Sector Support Team](#)

Department of Health Updates

Keep up to date – find all the updates here:

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

Health Direct Covid Restriction Checker

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

ABC News Aged Care Page

The ABC maintains a page on news related to aged care. Visit here: [Aged Care - Topic - ABC News](#)

Aged Care News

Another source of news on aged care. Visit here: [Homepage - Aged Care News](#)