

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO:

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It's time to support big picture reform

Australia's aged care sector has united to demand reform follows the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety later this month.

And we all have a part to play.

No matter whether you are a resident, family member or advocate, staff member or member of our community – you can help.

The newly formed Australian Aged Care Collaboration (AACC) has launched a campaign titled ***It's Time to Care About Aged Care*** that includes a campaign advertisement, a report that identifies the 30 members of the 151 member Federal Parliament who represent the oldest Australian communities by age, a petition that can be signed and a host of social media and awareness resources. All can be located at <https://www.careaboutagedcare.org.au> I urge you to take a look at this report and take whatever action you feel is appropriate. The website has plenty of information and resources for those who wish to do so.

The Nicholls electorate covers our aged care facilities and the majority of our home care clients and comes in as the 20th oldest electorate, with 47% of voters over the age of 55.

**It's time
to care
about
aged care.**

Things you can do

You can download a copy of the report via this link, <https://www.careaboutagedcare.org.au>



You can also **sign the petition** at this website, <https://www.careaboutagedcare.org.au> to show you believe it is time to care about aged care in Australia. The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety is set to report that many older people are not receiving the care that they need and deserve, and that the Australian community expects.

Over 20 previous reports have called for changes which have largely been ignored. By signing the petition, you are encouraging your Member of Parliament to support comprehensive reform of the aged care system and calling for Government action to ensure all older people are supported and enabled to live their lives with dignity.

Some Facts

- Australia devotes less than half of what comparable countries do to aged care (1.2% vs 2.5% of GDP). Denmark and Sweden allocate more than 4% of GDP.
- The AACC represents more than 1,000 organisations who deliver 70% of government-subsidised aged care services to 1.3 million Australians, either in their own homes or in communal residential settings.
- Australia's aged care system is in urgent need of transformation, with 16,000 vulnerable Australians dying in 2017-18 while waiting for a government-subsidised support package in their own home.
- An additional 100,000 people are waiting for home support at their approved level - with those in need of the highest-level packages typically waiting at least 12 months.
- Separately, a further 88,000 places will be required in communal Residential Aged Care over the next 10 years, at a cost of \$55 billion.
- An additional 78,000 extra workers are needed in the next 10 years to deal with the country's ageing population.
- As a result, under-resourced aged care homes were described as in an 'impossible situation' by Counsel Assisting to the Royal Commission - and are struggling to maintain standards and staffing, whilst fighting to keep their doors open.

**It's time to care
about aged care.**