

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 Zoom

Our regular Regional CHSP Zooms will be held on **1 June 2021** at **2 pm**.

Please register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYoc-uprjgvE9VLIK6MgPsmPrL_HTHKTxTw

If anyone has agenda items for upcoming forums or would like us to find information/speakers on specific issues please let us know asap.

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/>

On this site you will find:

An introduction to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme

Food Safety for Seniors

Dementia Basics

Duty of Care

Professional Boundaries

Confidentiality

If you would prefer to host a paper-based group session we are happy to help. We can provide resources and send out certificates after completion.

COVID-19 vaccine for in-home and community aged care workers and volunteers

The Department of Health has advised that all workers (including unpaid volunteers) in in-home and community aged care are included in phase 1b and are eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine now. This includes those delivering care directly to an individual as well as those in administrative roles.

[COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker | Australian Government Department of Health](#)

Information for CHSP service providers: transition to payment in arrears

On 11 May 2021, the Australian Government announced changes to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) to help position the aged care sector as it moves towards a new support at home program commencing in July 2023. The new program will replace the CHSP, Home Care Packages, Short-Term Restorative Care, and residential respite programs.

To prepare for these future reforms, CHSP grant agreements will be extended for one year from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, with most CHSP providers transitioning to payment in arrears.

As this will be a significant change for many CHSP service providers, the department will consult with providers on the implementation of this measure over the next three months through the establishment of a representative working group. This group will consider:

- simple reporting requirements that are not onerous for providers
- a review of unit prices to support viable and sustainable service delivery models – a consultancy is currently being established to conduct this review
- redesign of grant agreements and activity work plans
- the appropriate start date for moving to payment in arrears within the 2022-23 financial year
- the identification of a small number of services that may have special circumstances requiring an exemption from moving to full payment in arrears
- the development of guidance for providers on moving to payment in arrears, including the role of Sector Support and Development providers in helping to prepare for this change.

The working group will include representatives from each CHSP service type. A request for members will be made via peak bodies over the next week.

Further details about these changes will be made available to service providers through the normal channels as they are finalised, with detailed advice to be finalised by September 2021.

Payment in arrears will come into effect within the 2022-23 financial year, with the start-date to be determined by September 2021, following the above consultation process.

SBS COVID-19 Vaccine Information Video in Over 60 Languages

SBS has released a video in more than 60 languages, including AUSLAN, informing communities about Australia's COVID-19 vaccination roll-out plan, how vaccines work, and how they are approved in Australia. The video explains the different phases of the Australian Government's COVID-19 Vaccine National Rollout Plan, specifically in what order different workers and age groups will receive the vaccine. It also highlights where it will be available, who will receive it free of charge, and points to additional resources for further information.

[View videos.](#)

Federal Budget and Response to Royal Commission

In this week's Federal Budget, the Australian Government announced a record \$17.7 billion investment over 5 years, over the forward estimates, for aged care support and reform.

The Government has accepted or accepted in principle 126 recommendations, or 85%, and supports instead an alternative approach on four of the recommendations. Twelve recommendations are subject to further consideration or noted in the Government response. Six were not accepted including the recommendations for an earmarked levy and changes to the means test.

To see the detailed government response to the Royal Commission:

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/australian-government-response-to-the-final-report-of-the-royal-commission-into-aged-care-quality-and-safety>

Rural, regional, and remote service provision was shown extra attention within the response.

Relevant Budget Fact Sheets include:

Governance (Pillar 5 of the Royal Commission response) – Strengthening regional stewardship of aged care accessible [here](#)

Governance (Pillar 5 of the Royal Commission response) – More equitable access to aged care for First Nations people and special needs groups accessible [here](#)

Human Rights-based approached in Community Services

NCOSS Learning Opportunity

Community sector leaders, advocates and service practitioners are called to be 'inclusive', 'equitable' and 'non-discriminatory' in supporting people. In this 3 x 90-minute online series from NCOSS, you will acquire new insights and tools to nurture and grow human rights-based approaches in service practice, advocacy and leadership. Learning will be facilitated by the pioneering team from NSW TAFE that piloted a course for the Australian Human Rights Commission in 2012. [Save the dates](#) for this unique and highly-rated learning opportunity!

Building Powerful Proposals - 31 May 2021, Online

Cost: \$0-\$150.

Presenting your proposal to a waiting audience is one of the most nerve-wracking experiences for many people.

There is nothing worse than getting to the end of your presentation only to be met with awkward silence or stilted applause. Often we only get one chance to make a big impression so we need to make sure we deliver. In this session, we will look at the critical steps to building your presentation.

Through crafting your audience experience, structuring your content and creating powerful presentation materials, this webinar will help you to make your next pitch or proposal a standing ovation.

[More information and registration.](#)

Financial Reporting for Charities - 16 Jun 2021, Online

Australian Charities & Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)

Financial Reporting for Charities

16 June 2021, 12.00pm-1.00pm

Online

Free.

This webinar will focus on the financial reporting requirements of Australia's charities. It will provide an overview of financial reporting requirements, as well as ACNC resources to help charities, information on common errors the ACNC sees and new accounting standards charities need to be aware of.

[Register.](#)

Employee engagement and continuous performance management

Connecting Up

3 June, 2021 11:00am - 12:00pm AEST

FREE

Did you know that an average 30-person company that has a highly engaged workforce sees a business value of over 1 Million dollars thanks to this high engagement level?

In this webinar we'll discuss the latest strategies and tools to help you connect, communicate and keep your workforce engaged, even when they may be spread out in different offices or working from home!

Please [login](#) or [create an account](#) to be able to access this product and proceed with your order.

Meeting Community Needs in Difficult Times: Experiences of Australia's Community Sector

Community sector leaders have reported a surge in unmet demand for services dealing with economic hardship, homelessness, mental health and domestic violence as a result of under-funding, in research conducted by the Social Policy Research Centre at UNSW Sydney.

The research was commissioned by the Australian Council of Social Service in partnership with the Councils of Social Service and with the support of Bendigo Bank. The qualitative study took place in February and March 2021.

[https://www.acoss.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/meeting-community-needs-in-difficult-times_experiences-of-Australias-community-sector WEB v2.pdf](https://www.acoss.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/meeting-community-needs-in-difficult-times_experiences-of-Australias-community-sector_WEB_v2.pdf)

Supporting older Australians to maintain positive mental health

ACSA in partnership with Mental Health & Well-Being Training Solutions has developed a series of non-clinical webinars, focused on raising awareness and providing education and training to increase understanding of the variety of mental health conditions experienced by older people, and the impact these conditions may have on care and service delivery in the older person's home.

<https://acsa.asn.au/News/Supporting-older-Australians-mental-health>

Palliative Care Resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Palliative Care Australia has launched '[Discussing Choices - Indigenous Advance Care Plans - A Learning Resource](#)', a new video for health professionals.

The video illustrates culturally safe advance care planning for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

New palliative care resources to support aged care

ELDAC is developing [a suite of new resources](#) spanning five key areas that are integral to the provision of quality palliative care across the aged care sector.

These new resources will be released from early 2021 to mid-2023 and are designed to improve capacity at the individual, service and system levels. A [printable factsheet](#) has also been developed for download.

Cultural diversity webinars

The [Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing](#) has launched new free webinars covering a range of topics of interest to staff and leaders in aged care services, including:

Accessing culturally appropriate resources for your consumers

Applying a diversity lens to dementia care

Cross-cultural communication.

These free webinars will be facilitated by diversity experts from across Australia.

Supporting the building of intergenerational programs within communities

Researchers at Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA) and University of New South Wales (UNSW) [DR GAIL KENNING](#), [ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RUTH PETERS](#), [YING XU](#), [NICOLE EE](#) are working on an Intergeneration Integration project.

There is increasing evidence to show that intergenerational interaction is beneficial for older adults and children alike. Higher levels of social engagement in older adults have been associated with better physical and cognitive function and wellbeing. Time spent with older adults has been linked to enhanced social and personal skills in children. However, familial intergenerational interaction is falling despite rising numbers of community-based older adults. In Australia alone, approximately 15% of the total population are aged 65 and over, up from 5% in the 1920s and estimated to increase to 22% (8.8 million) in the next 30-40 years. Employment and economic factors drive greater geographical mobility of working-age adults, resulting in increased separation from older family members with 40% of Australians aged 75-84 and 51% of those 85 and over living alone. Recent television series in Australia and the United Kingdom, have raised awareness and enthusiasm for intergenerational activities as an opportunity that could be realised within communities. However, while intergenerational programs are gaining in popularity globally, evidence for best practice in this area remains scarce.

This project will build and pilot a novel, evidence-based, co-designed Intergenerational Program Development toolkit targeted for community use and tailored to an Australian environment.

The Centre for Diversity Training FREE - Diversity Training Series

The Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing has launched eight new webinars for 2021. The Diversity Training Series was designed in response to a diversity training provider survey conducted in 2020 by the Centre. The webinars cover a range of topics of interest to staff and leaders in aged care services. These free webinars will be facilitated by diversity experts from across Australia.

<http://www.culturaldiversity.com.au/news-and-events/latest-news/682-diversity-training-series>

HSP Digital Landing Page – reablement resources

Following consultation with the aged care sector, Health has designed a suite of products for Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) organisations to better understand, embed, and practically apply wellness and reablement into CHSP service delivery practices.

All CHSP organisations can access the reablement digital landing page on the department's website.

<https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/wellness-and-reablement-initiative>

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.

CHSP Ad-Hoc Emergency COVID-19 Funding – GO3877 – closes 30 June 2021

The objective of this grant 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 existing service delivery arrangements that are beyond the control of the grant recipient.

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

CHSP Ad Hoc Funding - GO4265 - closes 30 June 2022

This is to enable services to respond to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances, address gaps in service delivery and trial and implement new and innovative service delivery models. You have until **30th June 2022 @ 2 pm** to apply for one-off and/or recurrent funding.

<https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/Show?GoUuid=64c68525-fdd8-bbb7-1826-7ff80a0f88ca>

Department of Health Updates

Keep up to date – find all the updates here:

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