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Service Providers Network News

March 2011

Supporting Carers Now and Into the Future

Carers SA State Budget Submission 2011–2012

Carers SA argued that the continuing implementation of existing and new initiatives that provide specific support for Carers enabled them to continue to care over the longer term. Carers SA highlighted ten recommendations to build on the growing State Government commitments to family Carers.

1. Further development of 'joined up' approaches across government agencies to include all government departments, underpinned by the strategic leadership of the Office for Carers.
2. Carer recognition in the South Australian Strategic Plan by the establishment of a target and an outcome measure for Carers.
3. Carer impact statements be established and applied in policies and programs of relevance to Carers.
4. Broadening of funding and criteria regimes for regional Carer Support organisations through comprehensive resourcing from across government including Health, Regional Development, Primary Industries and Disabilities.
5. Additional monies for respite for Carers within Health, Ageing, Disability and Community

Service portfolios, including broadening eligibility criteria.

6. A policy, and its implementation, for young Carers within primary and secondary education that takes into account their educational needs so as to improve their educational outcomes.
7. A schools based, interdepartmental young Carers program that integrates family focussed schools and community based programs.
8. A priority pathway to social housing and service supports within mental health programs for people with mental illness and their ageing Carers.
9. Increases in concessions and subsidies to meet the ongoing rises in the costs of living for Carers, including an immediate doubling of utility concessions.
10. Support for nationally consistent concessions, subsidies and cross border eligibility.

Government agencies should explore ways to provide support for Carers within existing programs.
For copies email info@carers-sa.asn.au.

Transforming Respite now to 2015

6 May 2011
Allan Scott Park,
Morphettville



Join in this genuine opportunity to influence the shape of respite into the future; to challenge the current limitations facing aged care providers and consumers of respite services and to identify and push for real change.

To register your interest and receive updates, go to www.agedcommunity.asn.au.

Have Your Say Forums

Providing valuable insights into the difficulties facing Carers and what should be done about it.

- Western Adelaide CALD Carers: 6 April
 - Southern Adelaide: 14 April, Old Reynella
 - Western Adelaide: 12 May, West Lakes
 - Northern Adelaide: 18 May, Salisbury
- 10-12:30: Carers: 2-4:30: Service Providers

To RSVP or make a comment if you can't attend call 1800 815 549 or email info@carers-sa.asn.au.



Upper Limestone Coast March 2011

Disability Care and Support Productivity Commission Draft Report

Key Points

- The current disability system is underfunded, unfair, fragmented and inefficient and gives people with a disability little choice and no certainty of access to appropriate resources.
- There should be a National Disability Insurance Scheme that provides insurance cover for all Australians in the event of significant disability.
- The NDIS would fund long term high quality care and support for about 360,000 people.
- The NDIS would muster community resources, provide information, oversight quality assurance, break down stereotypes and publicise best practice among providers.
- The needs of people with disability and their Carers would be assessed rigorously leading to individualised support packages.
- Assessments of need and support packages would be portable around Australia.
- People would be able to choose their own service providers, or ask a support organisation to organise their best package or cash out their allocation for self direction.
- An additional \$6.3 billion would be needed every year to fund the NDIS.
- The scheme to start in 2014 with a regional trial, followed by complete rollout in 2015.
- A no-fault National Injury Insurance Scheme is needed for people requiring lifetime care and support as a result of catastrophic injuries.

Carers Australia fully supported the recommendation on family based assessment. President Tim Moore said that this would put Carers' needs clearly into the picture and recognise that Carers' have particular support needs. A family centred approach would provide a perspective that recognised whole of family needs.

The Report was released 28 February 2011. Opportunity for further comment includes public hearings (Adelaide on 18 April 2011) and written submissions by 30 April 2011.

For more information and copies go to www.pc.gov.au.



A not to be missed opportunity to examine, analyse, debate and discuss the Productivity Commission's proposals for an NDIS. Registration fees have been kept as low as

feasible to ensure maximum participation for people with a disability, their families and Carers and service and support organizations.

Support for people with disabilities will be available. Etihad Stadium, Melbourne, 2-3 May.

For more information and registration go to www.nds.org.au.

www.everyaustraliancounts.org.au

A new interactive website for the national disability Insurance scheme campaign highlighting greater social inclusion for people with a disability, their families and Carers.

www.disabilitystories.org.au

A new interactive, evidence-based e-learning resource from Novita about the perspectives of children with a disability between the ages of 0 and 18, and their parents and Carers.

Caring for Older Australians

In responding to the Productivity Commission Caring for Older Australians Draft Report, released 21 January 2011, Carers SA highlighted specific concerns of South Australian Carers that were not adequately recognised or addressed. Carers SA provided the evidence of a successful carer support model that is used throughout South Australia.

Recommendations

The Productivity Commission

1. Incorporates a separate chapter that appropriately recognises and analyses the role of carers in supporting the aged care system.
2. Addresses those issues that affect the financial, lifestyle and health and wellbeing of carers
3. Addresses how carers' long term needs are factored and incorporated into the financial impacts of the proposed equity scheme.
4. Ensures that South Australian carers are not disadvantaged, including the issue of different financial status between states, addressing:
5. Incorporates into the proposal for National Carer Support Centres, the carer support model as operates in South Australia.
6. Considers the needs of rural and remote carers and the older Australians for whom they care when drawing up models for aged care support.
7. Has regard to the importance of locating services for carers in areas and regions that will not exacerbate transport issues or compound the disadvantage many carers face in being able to access transport.

For copies call 8291 5600 or email info@carers-sa.asn.au.

For more information on the Productivity Commission Inquiry go to www.pc.gov.au.

Patient centred care: what do consumers want? Consumers and Carers at the heart of healthcare

HCA 2011 consumer conference

Explore consumer and Carer perspectives to develop a consumer "blueprint" for patient centred care.

For more information and registration go to www.hcssa.asn.au.