

PRESENTATION FOR MAC SERVICE MANAGERS' FORUM – 30 MAY 2018

Who is FECCA?

- The national peak body representing the voice and aspirations of Australians from CALD backgrounds.
- Ageing and aged care is one of FECCA's more significant portfolios.
- FECCA is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health to deliver a range of initiatives and conduct consumer and provider consultations which inform policy at the national level.

There are a number of key areas associated with the national aged care reforms which have been the main focus of FECCA's policy and advocacy work in the last couple of months in particular. These include:

CALD Action Plan

- At our last meeting, you were provided with a copy of the Aged Care Diversity Framework and were advised that there would be three priority action plans that would sit under this Framework – CALD, ATSI and LGBTI.
- The CALD Action Plan which has been driven by FECCA is in its final stages of development and underpinned by extensive consultations undertaken by FECCA with approximately 700 consumers and service providers across Australia.
- All three Plans will be launched by the Minister in the very near future.

Guidance material for the new Age Care Quality Standards

- The new Aged Care Quality Standards will focus on quality outcomes for consumers rather than provider processes and will apply to all aged care services including residential care, home care, flexible care and services under the Commonwealth Home Support Program.
- If you've provided feedback on the draft guidelines, then you've noticed that they're pretty broad – I recall Consumer Outcome 1 talking about treating people with respect and dignity and being culturally inclusive but what does that actually look like for CALD older people? Guidance material is being developed by the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency (Quality Agency) to support provider compliance and assessment of the Aged Care Quality Standards. Supporting information for consumers is also being developed. FECCA is working to ensure that guidance material for working with CALD consumers is included, is meaningful and provides specific indicators against which service providers can be assessed. The CALD Action Plan contains much of this guidance material as it reflects and responds to the consumer outcomes of the new standards.

- Subject to agreement by the Government and parliamentary processes, transition to the Aged Care Quality Standards is expected to commence from 1 July 2018, with assessment against the Standards from 1 July 2019. Providers will have a 12 month transition period during which they will continue to be assessed against the current applicable standards.

Announcements from the 2018-19 Federal Budget

\$5 billion for aged care over 4 years. Unfortunately, there was no funding earmarked for CALD older people but FECCA is advocating to ensure equitable access for CALD within the various initiatives that were announced. These included:

\$61.7 million for improvements to My Aged Care

\$102 million towards mental health services for older Australians.

\$32.8 million to deliver improved palliative care and end of life coordination services.

\$5.3 million for dementia care

\$22 million for elder abuse programs

\$7.4 million for Aged Care System Navigators - at this stage we don't know how this program will be rolled out BUT FECCA will be advocating strongly with the support of the CALD sector for the inclusion of CALD specialist navigators.

Establishment of the Positive CALD Ageing Network (PCAN) Committee

FECCA has brought together key people from each State and Territory who are highly experienced in ageing and aged care issues and who are also familiar with the current and ongoing legislative reforms in aged care.

The PCAN had its inaugural meeting in April and it was quite boisterous I must say. What struck me was the respect and unity of thought around the table and the realisation perhaps that we need to all work much closer together to ensure that the changes to aged care that we're witnessing at the national level don't overlook the needs of older people from CALD backgrounds. Supporting the advocacy efforts of FECCA and the National PICAC Alliance is good place to start.

FECCA will be soon be releasing the first issue of its PCAN Newsletter which will provide background information on committee members as well as showcase the work of some very dedicated CALD specific services around the country. I urge you to obtain and read this first issue, either by contacting FECCA directly or going through MAC.

Continued representation on key national advisory bodies and forums

- NACA – member together with the PICAC Alliance
- Aged Care Diversity Framework
- Gateway Advisory Group
- CHSP Advisory Group — *co-contributor guidance national*
- Nominated for the Aged Care Industry Reference Group *see*