



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health and Ageing**

**Strengthening Indigenous Communities**  
*Additional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Places*

**Why is it important?**

- With the ageing of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population there is a growing demand for culturally appropriate aged care, close to home and country.
- Ageing and disability affects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people earlier than non-Indigenous Australians. Designating an additional 150 places for flexible use under the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy will assist in meeting unmet demand.

**Who will benefit?**

- Older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, mainly in rural and remote areas, will benefit from the staged implementation of 150 new flexible aged care places.

**What funding is the Government committing to the initiative?**

- The additional places will increase Government funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander aged care by \$15.1 million over four years.

**What have we done in the past?**

- The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy was introduced in 1994. It currently supports nearly 600 places through some 30 services that are mainly in rural and remote locations.

**When will the initiative conclude?**

- This initiative will be reviewed in the 2010-11 Budget.