



**The Hon Justine Elliott MP  
Minister for Ageing**

**The Hon Lindy Nelson-Carr MP  
Minister for Communities,  
Disability Services,  
Seniors and Youth**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **CARE FOR QUEENSLAND AGED AND DISABLED TO TOP \$1.2 BILLION**

The Australian and Queensland governments have reached an historic agreement to provide record funding to support services for vulnerable Queenslanders such as help at home, meals on wheels and community transport.

Under the agreement, the Commonwealth and Queensland governments will boost the budget for Home and Community Care services to about \$1.2 billion over three years.

Queensland HACC has assisted more than 159,000 people last financial year.

The formal agreement was signed between the two governments.

HACC programs help people remain in the community and help older Australians and people with a disability remain independent in their homes.

Commonwealth Minister for Ageing, Mrs Justine Elliot and Queensland Minister for Disability Services Ms Lindy Nelson-Carr today have announced Home and Community Care (HACC) organisations would receive the new funding by the 2010-11 financial year.

Mrs Elliot said the increased funding would bring about increased services for vulnerable Queenslanders.

"The Commonwealth Government is committed to funding community organisations throughout the country, and the joint funding agreement for Queensland HACC services is proof we are delivering," Ms Elliot said.

"The HACC program provides many services to assist with daily activities that most people take for granted, such as domestic chores, help with dressing and grooming and access to the community," she said.

"For frail older people or other people with a disability these tasks can be challenging. This assistance will allow people to continue to live their daily lives with friends and family with dignity.

“HACC is an outstanding example of what can be achieved through Commonwealth and State governments by working together.”

Ms Nelson-Carr said the massive new funding injection was a response to the rising number of frail aged people and young people with disabilities who are receiving HACC services.

“The new triennial funding agreement will enable many more carer organisations across Queensland to provide these vital community services across the State,” Ms Nelson-Carr said.

“It will enable the organisations help more Queenslanders stay in the comfort of their own homes for longer, instead of having to move into permanent care,” she said.

“There are also programs to provide culturally appropriate support for people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.”

The HACC program is jointly funded under an agreement by the Commonwealth and Queensland governments.

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