



Senator the Hon Santo Santoro
Australian Government
Minister for Ageing

The Hon John Della Bosca MLC
New South Wales Government
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Disability Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$31.4 M boost for home and community care in NSW

Additional funding of \$31.4 million, announced today, will help frail older people, younger people with disabilities and their carers to continue living independently in their own homes and communities.

The Australian Government Minister for Ageing, Senator Santo Santoro, and the New South Wales Government Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, Mr John Della Bosca, said their governments would provide the funding through the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program, a joint Australian Government–NSW Government initiative.

“The Home and Community Care (HACC) Program is central to the Commonwealth Government’s aged-care strategy,” Senator Santoro said.

“This additional funding brings HACC funding in New South Wales to \$475.4 million in 2006-07. It represents an increase of 7 per cent over the funding available in 2005-06.”

Mr Della Bosca said: “HACC is important because of the care and support services it provides. They range from social support, centre-based day care and respite care to community transport, domestic assistance, home modifications and maintenance, as well as food services.

“Services for people with dementia and their carers will receive a significant boost. There are also specific initiatives to improve access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from different cultural backgrounds.

“The additional HACC funds will be used to make many vital services available where they are most needed, and in a way that delivers value for money. This will ensure that the services benefit as many people as possible,” Mr Della Bosca added.

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