



MEDIA RELEASE

Ageing: CALD matters

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Ageing: Do CALD matters matter in Ageing?

- By 2021 more than 30% of older people will have been born overseas
- 14% of Australian born are over 65; whereas those born in the Baltic States 60% are over 65

What are the matters which matter in ageing for older people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds?

At the Multicultural Aged Care Inc. (MAC) *Symposium Ageing: CALD matters* held on Wednesday, 22 June 2016, leaders (60) in the aged care sector in SA established a shared vision for CALD aged and community care.

The Symposium endorsed the five principles of the National Ageing and Aged Care Strategy and particular emphasis was given to: Inclusion; Empowerment and Access and Equity. Furthermore the goals and actions to be implemented to achieve that shared vision were highlighted.

CALD older people want to

- Live the lifestyle of their choice within their families and local communities
- Access information about ageing and aged care
- Receive information and services which meet their cultural and language needs

The sector response, during the Symposium, recommended

- Block funding models to be maintained post 2017
- Compulsory cultural competency training for the aged and community care workforce
- Bilingual Information workers, trained in aged care

Multicultural Aged Care urges continuing commitment to

- the Departmental policy document *National Ageing and Aged Care Strategy for People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Backgrounds* (to be reviewed in 2017)
- targeted funding for CALD aged and community care programs
- the Partners in Culturally Appropriate Care Program (PICAC). The role, functions, outcomes and outputs of the PICAC Program funded since 1997 remain essential to CALD older people being able to access appropriate ageing information and services.

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