



Multicultural  
Aged Care

10 September 2020

PO Box 488  
Torrensville Plaza SA 5031  
08 8241 9900  
macsa@mac.org.au  
www.mac.org.au  
ABN 33 306 791 610

### **Multicultural Aged Care Farewells CEO Rosa Colanero**

The Multicultural Aged Care (MAC) Board of Management would like to inform all members, stakeholders and clients of the resignation of our Chief Executive Officer, Rosa Colanero OAM.

In 2004 Rosa came to MAC with extensive knowledge and experience on education, governance and multiculturalism both at the state and national level. As CEO of the lead agency providing information, education, training and resources for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) aged and community care, Rosa highlighted, lobbied and advocated for, at the national level:

- the need for cultural awareness and cultural competency training
- the importance of culturally appropriate care for older people from diverse cultural backgrounds; and
- that service providers are trained, and provided with better practice models, strategies and resources in delivering culturally appropriate services

Rosa championed CALD community group involvement and collaboration in the decision making processes in aged care through discussion with Commonwealth Department of Health and various Commonwealth and State Ministers of Health and Ageing, health and age care reform and transition of the old Home and Community Care programs to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme. She advised the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) and was actively involved in the development of the National CALD Ageing Strategy followed by the Diversity Framework to ensure CALD issues remained in the aged care reform agenda.

Another highlight of Rosa's leadership is the Partners in Culturally Appropriate Care (PICAC) program. PICAC has a seat with the National Aged Care Alliance, the representative body of peak national organisations working together to determine a more positive future for aged care in Australia.

Rosa's outstanding commitment and passion in ensuring the voice of CALD older people continued to be heard and advocating for multiculturalism is still as firm as when she started more than 40 years ago. Rosa's generosity in giving her time and support to MAC staff and CALD Community groups has not abated and we celebrate her contribution to MAC to the betterment of aged care.

We thank Rosa for her significant contribution to MAC and aged care as a whole and wish her the best in her retirement.

Maria Johns, Manager, Community Services Development, has been appointed as acting CEO, effective immediately. With more than a decade managing at MAC, Maria provides stability and experience in the transition period prior to and following the appointment of a new CEO.

Incidentally, the Board has decided that the MAC AGM will be postponed to February/March 2021 due to prevailing circumstances. Firm dates will be conveyed to all concerned well in time.

**About Multicultural Aged Care:**

Multicultural Aged Care is funded through the Australian Government Department of Health and delivers the Partners in Culturally Appropriate Care (PICAC) Programme in SA and the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP). The membership of MAC includes CALD community groups and organisations, and aged and community care service providers.

**Contact Information:**

Joe Taheny, Projects Coordinator can be contacted by phone: 08 8241 9900 or email: [joe@mac.org.au](mailto:joe@mac.org.au)

Yours sincerely



Vikram Madan OAM  
Chairperson, Multicultural Aged Care Inc