



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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Newcastle's Senior Citizens to Get More Support

Aged and community care services in Newcastle have received a further boost from the Federal Government, with the announcement of \$296,016 in funding to go towards the training and up-skill of 65 aged and community care staff.

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP, announced the funding today.

"Ensuring our older citizens receive high quality care is of the utmost importance," Ms Grierson said.

"By enhancing the skills of staff in the aged and community care sector, we can ensure that they will provide even better support to those they care for."

This announcement follows the July 1 announcement of almost \$3 million in funding for aged care service providers in the Newcastle area.

"The Rudd Government has a real commitment to quality aged and community care services in Australia – this latest round of funding shows just that," Ms Grierson said.

The programs in this education and training package are:

- **Community Aged Care Workforce Development** - which will equip personal care workers with the skills and knowledge for home-based care of frail aged people with complex care needs; and
- **Better Skills for Better Care** - which will support personal care workers in aged care homes in gaining certificate-level qualifications - such as enrolled nursing.

This announcement is part of a nationwide \$43.8 million education and training package designed to provide training to more than 8,000 aged and community care personal care workers.

Media contacts: 4926 1555

Canberra
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Ph: 02 6277 4221
Fax: 02 6277 8461



Newcastle
427 Hunter Street
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300
Ph: 02 4926 1555
Fax: 02 4926 1895
www.sharongrierson.com