

# **Media Release**

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## **COMMUNITY CARE: THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE**

Aged care in the future is more likely to be delivered to your home and less likely to be provided in nursing homes. This is one of the underlying themes behind the first national conference on community care being staged this week in Sydney - from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> May.

“People want to be cared for in their own homes for as long as possible” stated Greg Mundy CEO of Aged and Community Services Australia which represents most of the 4,000 organisations involved in the delivery of these vital services.

“Already demand for community care services exceeds supply and this will get worse in the future without a significant further boost to government funding.”

“While people will still need residential care, the combination of people’s preference to stay at home and the fact that this means that governments bear less of the cost – and families more – will mean more community care as our population ages.”

“Working out how to do this better is what conferences like this are about” Mr Mundy added. People come to exchange knowledge and views with their peers and to hear from experts in the field.”

“We have 85 speakers and a total attendance of 1,000 people, all keen to learn more about care in the community for older people, people with a disability and people with shorter term health care needs.”

“The vital role played by family members as carers of people living at home will also be highlighted in the conference program as will the specific needs of indigenous groups”

“While some aged care providers may stick to what they know best – residential care – many others have long recognised that, if people want to be cared for at home, then community care must form part of what they do.”

“Community care needs to be taken ever more seriously as our population ages. “ Mr Mundy concluded.

**Ends**

***Information about the speakers at the conference can be obtained from the conference media officer, Megan Stoyles, on 0408 147 829***

***The full conference program is available at [www.agedcare.org.au](http://www.agedcare.org.au)***

**For Further Information**

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