



DecisionAssist
Palliative Care and Advance Care
Planning for Aged Care

Media Release

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New grants provide South Australians with better end of life care choices

Adelaide organisations will share in grants totalling \$160,000 announced today as part of the Decision Assist Linkages project.

Linkages Project Leader, Professor Patsy Yates from the Queensland University of Technology, said that one South Australian project will ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are palliative and living in an aged care facility, have access to services that are culturally appropriate.

“Northern Adelaide Medicare Local, Aboriginal Elders & Community Care Services and the SA Ambulance Service will link to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in aged care facilities have access to culturally appropriate services that allows equitable treatment,” Professor Yates said.

“It is important that they are able to stay in the facility in comfort and privacy, able to spend time with family and friends and avoid unnecessary transition to hospital.

“Clients with complex chronic conditions often require care from a range of health service providers and this group’s Care Coordination and Outreach Service team consisting of GPs, Aboriginal health workers, Aboriginal Outreach Workers and allied health professionals will provide this.

“As well, Helping Hand Aged Care, Central Adelaide Local Health Network and Calvary North Adelaide Hospital will develop a new way of supporting older people who need palliative care by ensuring they are given choices.

“Receiving appropriate palliative care in the place they choose which is best for them and their family is the project aim.

“The project funds will support organisations such as these in developing communication pathways, establishing agreements, developing different care approaches or establishing new or enhanced existing linkages between palliative care and aged care,” Professor Yates added.

More than \$1.5m in grants was announced as part of the Decision Assist Linkages project to build better links between the providers of palliative and aged care across Australia.

Funded by the Australian Government, Decision Assist also includes a 24/7 telephone advisory service for health professionals, specialised workshops and a dedicated website featuring the latest information and advice about advance care planning and palliative care. For details of the successful grants and more information on Decision Assist go to www.decisionassist.org.au.

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