

4 May, 2018

ACSA launches workforce unit to drive future service delivery

Aged & Community Services Australia today launched a new national Workforce and Industry Development Unit to assist providers to build the aged care workforce of the future.

“ACSA’s new unit is a national approach to tackling one of the biggest challenges facing the sector now, and into the foreseeable future, said ACSA CEO, Pat Sparrow. “Collaboration between various workplace services has worked well in Tasmania to support providers to attract, recruit and retain the aged care workforce they need now, as well as plan for their future needs.”

“We want to apply that successful approach nationally so providers around the country have access to the same level of responsive workforce support that has had such great results for employers and aged care workers in Tasmania.

“This initiative will help to strengthen the links between the ‘right fit’ workers, and the skills and knowledge they need to progress their career in aged care,” said Ms. Sparrow.

ACSA’s new nationally-focused unit brings together a range of State-based resources to facilitate improved collaboration between aged care service providers, training organisations, employment agencies, government departments and other stakeholders involved in workforce development.

In Tasmania, the approach has proven an effective way of building workforce capabilities, particularly in more remote communities where technology-enabled workforce tools have helped overcome some of the challenges of recruiting and retaining workers in those areas, she said.

“Aged care providers see every day the demanding but rewarding work carried out by aged care workers and understand how critical this workforce is to the quality of care for older Australians,” said Ms. Sparrow.

“A co-ordinated and collaborative approach to workforce planning has significant flow-on benefits to the community through employment and services.

“As the peak industry body, ACSA can play a valuable role providing the support, opportunity and careers to foster the aged care workforce and ensure it thrives into the future to meet the growing needs of our ageing population.”

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Media contacts:

Emily Parkinson, Media Manager: 0420 390 031

ACSA is the peak body for Australia’s not-for-profit, church, charitable and community-based aged care providers.

ACSA | Suite 3, Level 6, 24 Collins Street Melbourne 3000 | www.acsa.asn.au

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