Aged & Community Services Australia (Queensland), leading and representing the mission-based aged care sector.

**ACSA National Report**
Read the latest edition of the ACSA National Report [here](#).

**ACSA Queensland Website Changes**
Last week at the ASCA National Summit the new look national website was launched. As we progress through the transition process the State websites will over time merge into this new website which will be accessed by all members Australia wide. Last week the Queensland and Victorian websites merged with the National website. The state URL links will now direct users to the National website.

View the ACSA National website at [www.acsa.asn.au](http://www.acsa.asn.au)

**Opening of 2016-17 Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR)**
Existing and prospective providers of Australian Government-funded aged care services are invited to apply for new residential aged care places, Short-Term Restorative Care places and capital grants.

Applications for the next Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR) open at 12:01am (AEST) on 19 September 2016. All applications must be received by the department by 11:59pm (AEST) Friday 28 October 2016. The Minister for Health, Aged Care and Sport, the Hon Sussan Ley MP has created 10,000 residential aged care places and 475 Short-Term Restorative Care places that are available for allocation through the 2016-17 ACAR.

Up to $64 million in capital grants under the Rural, Regional and Other Special Needs Building Fund will be offered as part of the 2016-17 ACAR. These grants aim to encourage greater investment in areas of high need, with $11.5 million earmarked to support access to residential aged care for older people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.

An application pack can be downloaded from the department's website.

**Information for Aged Care Providers - Department of Health Newsletter**
The Department has released their newsletter - Information for Aged Care Providers [Issue #2016/17](#)
In this issue:
Providers must complete the Workforce Census by 23 September
2016 Report on Funding and Financing of the Aged Care Industry now available
Better practice resources now available in TRACS and EBPAC evaluation reports
Are you giving out the right financial hardship forms?

Residential Care:
ACFI appraisals: the seven day rule

Home Care:
Increasing Choice in Home Care – national prioritisation webcast recording available
Home Care Today webinar – 19 September: strength based approaches for community case managers/advisers.

Issue #16 is now available.

ACSA Queensland Forum – Wednesday 26th October 2016
Register today to hear from industry speakers on the following topics:
- Helping Residents Fund their Aged Care - Gavin Robinson, Senior Manager Client Partnerships, La Trobe Financial Asset Management Ltd
- Housing & Community Care: The way of the future? - Barbara Squires, Director, Barbara Squires Consulting
- Government Funding and Financial Update - David Cox, Partner/Head of Operational Strategy, Ansell Strategic
- Commercialism in the Not-for-Profit Aged Care Sector - - James Underwood, Director, James Underwood & Associates

For more information on these and other presenters and to register visit the Forum website.

Department Feedback on ‘Asset Replacement’ Fees
In response to the matter of some Providers charging an ‘asset replacement’ or ‘capital refurbishment’ fee the department has issued a statement of their assessment of the legality of such a fee.
They note that:
- Fees charged for ‘other care or services’ must be agreed with the resident beforehand and the provider must give the resident an itemised account of the other care or services.
- The itemised account should include a list of the services and itemised cost delivered during the period (e.g. the services utilised by the resident during the month).
- Fees for ‘other care or services’ can also not be charged unless the resident receives a direct benefit or has the capacity to take up or make use of the services.

Examples of ‘other care and services’ for which charging of additional fees to residents is not permitted include, but are not limited to:
- maintenance inside and outside the aged care home;
- any repairs or replacements necessary because of normal wear and tear;
- general refurbishment of the resident’s room after they have left the aged care home;
- services or activities that would form part of the general operation of the aged care home, or are required in order to deliver residential care to the individual;
- employment of administration staff where the staff member is primarily undertaking activities.
related to the general operation of the aged care home; and

- capital costs, asset management or replacement.

The full detail of the information sent is on the Department website

My Aged Care System Changes
A My Aged Care system release has occurred with changes coming into effect on 12 September 2016. To assist service providers and assessors to understand the changes, a Summary of My Aged Care System Changes is now available.

The key changes to the system focus on enhancements to:
Assessor and service provider portals, including:
- ability to view reason for rejecting a referral
- preventing concurrent screenings and assessments
- improved process for requesting reviews for and making changes to support plans
- ability to revoke a referral after acceptance
- ability to edit and remove service provider preferences
- improved search functionality within portals

Assessment process and functionality, including:
- ability to directly refer for comprehensive assessment
- improvements to the National Screening and Assessment Form
- ability for ACATs to match and refer for CHSP without approval from Delegate

Information display, including:
- ability to attach multiple documents to referral form, including power of attorney and medical summary
- improved visibility of detailed assessment information
- additional CHSP service sub-types, including hydrotherapy
- improved visibility of Notifications of Non-Compliance and Sanctions.

The summary of changes document, along with summaries of previous system changes, are available on the department’s website.

ACNC 2017 Annual Information Statement
The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) is undertaking a public consultation on proposed changes to the Annual Information Statement requirements for 2017 and later years.

ACNC registered charities are required to complete an annual information statement which includes information about the charity, its activities and finances.

Submissions on the consultation paper close at 5pm on Tuesday 4 October 2016.

AACQA Quality Standard
The August edition of the Agency’s Quality Standard is available on their website.
Further Alert re Use of Bed Poles
The Tasmanian Coroner’s report recommends that aged care services immediately cease the use of model KA524 bed poles (or similar) due to the unacceptable risk of death associated with this device.

New Contact Details for Queensland Aged Care Programs Section - QLD Office
The Queensland Aged Care Programs Section recently moved premises. Phone numbers for staff and the Aged Care Provider Phone Line have changed however email addresses remain the same. The new contact details for the section are:

Aged Care Provider Phone: 07 3360 2841
Email: Qld.Aged.Care.Programmes@health.gov.au

Postal Address:
QLD Aged Care Programs, Department of Health, PO Box 9848, BRISBANE QLD 4001
Street Address:
Department of Health, Level 16, 160 Ann Street, BRISBANE QLD 4000

Home Care Today Newsletter
Read the latest Home Care Today newsletter here.

National Diabetes Services Scheme: Resources for Health Professionals Working with Older People
As part of the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) Older People with Diabetes National Development Program, a series of resources have been developed to support people working within residential aged care facilities (RACFs). Around one quarter of all people living in RACFs have diabetes.

Diabetes Management in Aged Care: A Practical Handbook PDF or eBook
Diabetes Management in Aged Care (DMAC) has been designed to provide an accessible and practical guide to diabetes management for staff working in residential aged care facilities (RACFs). This guide has been written for all care staff, from carers to registered nurses. Its aim is to help care staff understand the basics of diabetes management without overwhelming them with complex information about advanced clinical care.

Diabetes Management in Aged Care: Fast Facts for Care Workers PDF or eBook
This resource contains information about diabetes in older people and how to manage diabetes in a residential care setting. The Fast facts have been written for care staff. The information in this resource has been drawn from the ‘Fast facts’ sections at the start of each chapter in Diabetes Management in Aged Care: A Practical Handbook. For more information on any of the Fast facts topics, see the Handbook.

Audit Checklist: Management of Residents Who Have Diabetes
An audit checklist for management of residents with diabetes has been developed with the aim of assisting residential aged care facilities (RACFs) to reach accreditation standards in regards to their residents living with diabetes. The audit checklist has been developed with input from RACFs, the Older People with Diabetes National Development Program Expert Reference Group and the Australian Diabetes Educators Association.
The audit checklist can be completed electronically or printed and completed. All evidence should be documented in the checklist and also on the resident’s file.

If gaps are identified through the audit the following resources may be useful in bringing these up to the required standard:
- The McKellar guidelines for managing older people with diabetes in residential and other care settings
- The McKellar way – how to use the McKellar guidelines for managing older people with diabetes in residential and other care settings.

Other resources for older people with diabetes
You can see the resources that have been developed for older people with diabetes, including information about healthy eating and the broader health care team in the Older People Resources section.

**NACA August update**
A copy of the August NACA aged care reform monthly update is available [here](#).

**Only a few days left to complete the Workforce Census**
Thanks to all who have already completed their workforce censuses and to workers who have completed their survey questionnaires.

If your facilities/service outlets have not yet completed the workforce census there is still time—responses will be accepted until **Friday, 23 September 2016**.

Information on how to complete the census or survey is available at [www.survey.ipsos.com.au/NACWCAS](http://www.survey.ipsos.com.au/NACWCAS)

If you have further questions about how to complete the workforce census or survey please call the free helpline on 1800 071 735.

**ITAC – Empowering Care Technology Conference 28th – 30th November 2016**
The theme of the conference, ITAC – Empowering Care Technology emphasises the importance of information technology in establishing a sustainable, quality focused aged care environment.

This years ITAC Conference is being held at the Pullman Albert Park, Melbourne from 28-30 November 2016. For more information and to register visit the [conference website](#).

**ACSA Membership**
For more information on becoming an ACSA member please contact Greg Knox, ACSA National Membership Officer on 0418 300 688.