

The Community Partners Program (CPP) provides support for older people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities in accessing aged care services. Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS) is funded under the CPP to support and increase access for Arabic Speaking Background (ASB) communities to aged care services and provide the community with information to enable them to make informed decision.

Service provision and development

- Support Aged Care facilities in the recruitment of bilingual Arabic speaking staff
- Support Aged Care facilities by assisting interview panel for new bilingual staff members
- Inform staff within VASS on CPP aged care issues
- Organising forums on issues facing the ageing ASB communities including dementia
- Developing best practice model with Aged Care clients from ASB
- Visit Aged Care facilities and deliver cultural briefing to staff



Resource Development

- Develop cross cultural training model specifically addressing the diversities within the ASB communities
- Development of a Calendar of Culturally significant dates
- Develop a phonetic Arabic/English and Assyrian/English 'Frequently Used Terms' sheet
- Develop a Culturally Appropriate Foods document for aged care facilities.
- Conduct and collate surveys, identifying Aged Care facilities that cater for ASB communities
- Map out list of Aged Care facilities that cater to the diverse Arabic speaking communities

Networking

- Promoting of the CPP Project in both local and Arabic speaking media including SBS radio, articles and interviews
- Develop list and purpose of relationships with Aged Care facilities, community organisations, media and other organisations
- Utilise networks with Arabic Speaking media and Aged Care facilities to advertise positions to the Arabic Speaking communities

Training

- Targeted education of ASB community leaders on aged care facilities through meetings
- Deliver training to Aged Care services using the ASB specific cross cultural training model
- Accredited training in Aged Care services for 15 volunteers

For more information please contact VASS on (03) 9359 2861 or mail@vass.org.au.

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