



What's happening in HACCC

Western Sydney Community Care Forum

5 October, 2011

Rashmi Kumar

Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS)



Council of Social Service of NSW

- **NCOSS vision:** A society where there is social and economic equity, based on co-operation, participation, sustainability and respect.
- **NCOSS provides:**
 - independent & informed policy development, advice and review
 - coordination & leadership role for NSW non-government social & community services sector.
- **NCOSS works with** our members, the sector, the NSW Government and its departments and other relevant agencies on ongoing, current and emerging social, systemic and operational issues.
- **NCOSS membership:** community organisations and interested individuals.



Statewide snapshot

- *COAG HACC Split*
- *NSW State Budget*
- NSW Ageing Strategy
- *Productivity Commission Reports:*
 - *Caring for Older Australians*
 - *Disability Care & Support* or National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Every Australian Counts Campaign
www.everyAustralianscounts.com.au
- Standards: Disability Service & Aged Community Care Common
- Senate Inquiry into long-term planning for people ageing with disability
- National Carer Strategy
- ADHC & NDS Disability Industry Development Fund
- NSW 'Living Life My Way' Person-Centred Approaches consultations
- **NSW Disability Network Forum** convened by NCOSS

NSW State Budget

- ADHC Agency Budget is \$2.8 billion, up \$342 million (13.9%) on 2010-11
- “Largest increase in history” and in Australia to any disability related government agency, Treasurer Baird
- ADHC increase \$342 million recurrent breakdown is:
 - \$80 m recurrent Stronger Together 2 disability spending
 - \$40m indexation
 - \$42m HACCC growth funding (60% Commonwealth; 40% NSW)
 - \$150m transitional adjustments and transfers for the COAG HACCC changed arrangements from 2011-12 (this is NOT program funding!)
 - \$30m Disability Action Plan (Commonwealth transfers)

NSW State Budget

- **Home and Community Care (HACC) Program** up by \$42.2m to \$678m (approx. 6.5% growth).
 - NCOSS called for 20% increase in HACC funding.
 - NSW state budget allocated \$212.4m, Commonwealth contributed \$459.2m, DVA \$6.4m.

- **Home Care Service of NSW** funding \$227.5m (funding increase of 2.5% for CPI).
 - The Home Care Service is expected to provide more than 4 million hours of service in 2011-12.
 - Ongoing funding of \$15m for the Aboriginal Home Care Service.



NSW State Budget

- **\$150m for transitional arrangements for HACCC:**
 - Transition adjustments from Commonwealth & transfers from NSW Health
 - Agreed adjustment payments under National Health & Hospital Agreement

- **HACCC Highlights for 2011-12:**
 - **Individualised funding/Person-Centred Approaches** to be a feature of the new community care program for the approx. 50,000 people aged under 65 receiving HACCC services
 - Expansion of the **Hunter Community Care Access Point** to proceed, beginning with Central Coast



HACC Highlights

COAG HACC Split

- Commonwealth government has funding & policy responsibility for HACC from 1 July 2011
- No significant change to service provision until 1 July 2015
- NSW & Commonwealth governments will transfer funding between them to ensure that Commonwealth funds all services for people over 65 & Aboriginal people over 50, and ADHC funds all services for people under 65/50
- Commonwealth government assumes full operational responsibility from 1 July 2012
- Letters of introduction & intent to contract coming out soon!
- Contracts between HACC providers & DoHA to be finalised by April 2012
- ADHC & DoHA have negotiated for HACC providers with 2 contracts to only have to report **once** (what a relief!)

HACC Highlights

- **Community Care Common Standards**
 - Implemented from March 2011
 - Quality Review process getting underway for HACC providers – some will be reviewed by ADHC, others by DoHA

- **Better Practice Project & the Enabling Approach**
 - Awareness Raising workshops to be delivered in all regions from this year
 - 4 demonstration projects in NSW: Clarence Valley Northern NSW, Singleton in Hunter region, Northern Sydney, Eastern Suburbs Sydney
 - Evaluation of demonstration projects taking place



Productivity Commission *Caring for Older Australians* Report -Highlights

- Major emphasis:
 - Integrated aged care system
 - Greater flexibility
 - Care & accommodation costs to be financed differently
- Australian Seniors Gateway Agency ('Gateway') – responsible for information, assessment, referral, initial care co-ordination
- Residential aged care financing – Australian Aged Care Home Credit Scheme: a person can draw on the equity in their home down to a limit; dependents do not have to repay until they leave the home
- Lifetime maximum cost of **care** \$60,000; govt. pays beyond that
- Accommodation & living expenses to be met by individual



Productivity Commission *Caring for Older Australians* Report -Highlights

Community Care

- HACC, CACPs, EACH & EACH-D levels of community care collapsed into a single ‘Aged Care System’
- Person assessed as eligible by Gateway will receive entitlement of an amount of funds to be spent on care as they choose – Consumer Directed Care (CDC)
- Single fee policy across this system
- Some service types to continue to be block funded – ‘Community & carer support services’:
 - some meal services, information and advocacy, home maintenance, day therapy programs, community transport, social activity programs, low-level aids & equipment, and wellness programs
 - Common fee policy would not apply to these – they would set their own charges



Productivity Commission *Caring for Older Australians* Report - Highlights

- Specific supports for carers recommended – Carer Support Centres:
 - Training, advocacy, peer support programs, counselling, respite co-ordination
- People with disability can choose to stay in disability services system or to move into aged care system
- Some block funding for Special Needs groups
- Aged Care Commission would be responsible for:
 - regulation, quality assurance, price setting, data collection & publishing, and complaint handling
- Common reporting mechanism for community care
- Published data about quality
- Providers would be required to have Approved Provider status under the *Aged Care Act*



Council of Social Service of NSW

Rashmi Kumar

Senior Policy Officer, Older people, carers & community care

Ph: (02) 9211 2599, ext 108

Email: rashmi@ncoss.org.au

NCOSS

66 Albion St, Surry Hills, NSW 2010