



MEDIA RELEASE

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CHA URGES GOVERNMENT TO KEEP UP THE PACE ON HOME PACKAGE NUMBERS FOR ELDERLY AUSTRALIANS

Catholic Health Australia welcomes the release of a further 6,150 home care packages and urges the Federal Government to increase the pace so that older Australians needing care and support are not missing out or receiving fewer services than they require .

Collectively CHA members are the largest non-government providers of residential aged care.

CHA Chief Executive Pat Garcia said the waitlist for home care packages - which now stands at around 100,000 - remains unacceptably high, a point highlighted by the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety's Interim Report.

With the Royal Commission now reporting in February, Mr Garcia said all eyes would be on the May 2021 Budget.

"The aged care system is in desperate need of reform and proper funding - it needs an overarching plan that offers stability to the system.

"It is critical that the Government takes the opportunity presented by the Royal Commission to present a resourced program for systemic reform of aged care services so that all older Australians have timely access to quality aged care and support services of their choice."

Note to editors: Catholic Health Australia (CHA) is Australia's largest non-government grouping of health, community, and aged care services accounting for approximately 10 percent of hospital-based healthcare in Australia. Our members also provide around 25 percent of private hospital care, 5 percent of public hospital care, 12 percent of aged care facilities, and 20 percent of home care and support for the elderly.

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