

Subject: MEDIA RELEASE - MINISTER JACINTA COLLINS - MORE THAN \$30 MILLION FOR CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE AGED CARE - ADELAIDE - 15 AUGUST 2013

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Campaign Media Release

Minister for Mental Health and Ageing Jacinta Collins

Member for Hindmarsh Steve Georganas

MORE THAN \$30 MILLION FOR CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE AGED CARE

A re-elected Rudd Labor Government will provide more than \$30 million for new aged care services for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) older Australians, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing Senator Jacinta Collins announced today.

Minister Collins visited Multicultural Aged Care Inc. in Adelaide with the Member for Hindmarsh Steve Georganas.

“Around 20 per cent of people aged over 65 years were born outside Australia and by 2021 that number will rise to 30 per cent,” said Minister Collins.

“The Federal Labor Government’s \$3.7 billion *Living Longer, Living Better* reforms are delivering better support to older Australians from diverse backgrounds as they age and seek to access aged care services.”

Minister Collins said a re-elected Rudd Labor Government would boost that support with \$30 million in capital funding to help build new aged care homes to meet the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse older Australians.

The grants will deliver support for a range of projects to meet the needs of Australia's changing cultural demographic, including the recently announced capital projects to develop care services for Lebanese Muslim and Maronite communities.

"Federal Labor is building an aged care system which recognises that older Australians have a variety of cultural, linguistic and spiritual needs," said Minister Collins.

A re-elected Rudd Labor Government will also provide \$2.5 million over the next four years to help CALD community groups with applications to provide residential and in-home aged care and applications for capital funding.

Mr Georganas said Federal Labor is committed to spreading the benefits of *Living Longer Living Better* to all Australians.

"The Federal Labor Government delivered the first national CALD Strategy, and has committed more than \$190 million over five years for support including interpreting services, cultural competency training for aged care staff and innovative ethnically appropriate services," Mr Georganas said.

Minister Collins said Federal Labor has made aged care a priority and delivered the biggest reforms to aged care in a generation.

"When the time comes for Mr Abbott to fill his \$70 billion budget black hole, ageing and CALD Australians have a right to worry that aged care will not be spared.

"The Liberals' cuts to the bone will diminish the services that the most vulnerable members of our communities rely on."

The Labor Government's support for CALD Australians is part of the Rudd Labor Government's National Ageing and Aged Care Strategy for People from CALD backgrounds.

These commitments are already included in the budget.

ADELAIDE
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