



Proudly delivering the Australian Government's Home Care Workforce Support Program in Victoria and Tasmania.

Media Release

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MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR INJECTION TO HELP THE AGED CARE WORKFORCE GROW

A new partnership managing the Australian Government's Home Care Workforce Support Program will help inject more than \$23 million into the aged care sector in Victoria and Tasmania.

The Home Care Workforce Support Program, an initiative of the Australian Government, will provide funding over two years from financial year 2021-22 for targeted support to assist the aged care sector to increase the size of the personal care workforce. The peak body for aged care, **Aged & Community Services Australia (ACSA)**, will lead a consortium including the **Human Services Skills Organisation (HSSO)**, **Powerhouse Hub** and **MEGT** to drive the work.

ACSA CEO Mr Paul Sadler said increasing the home care workforce will play an essential role in addressing the current acute workforce shortage, which has been made substantially worse by the COVID pandemic.

"This is an exciting opportunity for ACSA to continue our work in promoting the sector and creating awareness about the roles available and helping providers attract the right fit staff in home care.

"Home care providers can also expect a greater level of support on the engagement and retention of their workforce.

"The bottom line is that people working on the frontline of caring for older Australians need to be properly resourced to provide the best care and supported to progress a career in the sector," said Mr Sadler.

Human Services Skills Organisation Chief Executive Officer Ms Jodi Schmidt said the state needs workforce development and training solutions that are high quality, relevant and responsive to industry needs.

"The growth in demand for the aged care services provided by the workforce combined with the need to provide skilled workers in the right place at the right time is one of our most pressing challenges nationally.

"The healthcare and social assistance sectors is the largest sector in the country, employing a massive 14.4 per cent of all workers.

"Between 2020 and 2025, we're expecting to see the health care and social assistance sectors grow by more than 7 per cent, to over 2 million workers. We need more people to consider a role in the sector, training solutions that create a new benchmark of care and finally, we need those workers to stay in those roles—that's why the program is so important.

"The Human Services Skills Organisation will lead a team of sourcing and training specialists in Victoria and Tasmania to find new workers suited to the industry, build their capability, and enhance the skills of existing workers.

"We will be working in close partnership with home care providers to access talent from a range of sources including employment services and education and training providers," said Ms Schmidt.

A key component of the program will be the underpinning technology, which will be supplied by PowerHouse Hub.

PowerHouse Hub Chief Executive Officer, Mr Tony Carrucan said sourcing and screening candidates for roles was important in ensuring talent retention.

"We know that when someone is well-suited for a role, they're more likely to stay. The PowerHouse Workforce solution will provide employers with new ways to source and screen candidates as well as the tools to upskill, manage compliance, discover talent, and retain staff according to job role," said Mr Carrucan.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Home Care Workforce Support Program is a \$91.8 million initiative of the Australian Government aimed at strengthening the personal care workforce, and helping older people live at home for longer. For more information about the initiative visit the Department of Health website. For more information about the work being undertaken, visit the [Aged & Community Services Australia \(ACSA\) website](#).

ABOUT THE CONSORTIUM PARTNERS

Aged & Community Services Australia (ACSA)

ACSA is the peak body for the aged care and community services sector. ACSA exists to support an equitable and just aged care sector that Australians can trust to offer quality of life, choice, and accessibility. Visit [acsa.asn.au](https://www.acsa.asn.au) for more information.

Human Services Skills Organisation (HSSO)

The Human Services Skills Organisation (HSSO) is an employer-led body focused on strengthening the Human Services workforce. We do this by building cross-sector collaboration and bringing together employers and training organisations to trial new ways to shape the national training system. The Human Services Skills Organisation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment through the Delivering Skills for Today and Tomorrow program. Visit [hssso.org.au](https://www.hssso.org.au) for more information.

Powerhouse Hub Group

PowerHouse Hub is a leading workforce management software company. Powerhouse Workforce builds customised online Talent Communities with targeted Talent Pools to find, profile, select, develop, and retain suitable talent. PowerHouse Hub is committed to enabling career pathways for people, with digital IDs that validate their job skills, compliance, and experience. Visit <https://www.powerhouseworkforce.com/> for more information.

MEGT

MEGT is a not-for-profit organisation which has been supporting employers, apprentices, trainees, job seekers and students for almost 40 years. Visit www.megt.com.au for more information.

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