

25 October 2022



UnitingCare Australia welcomes investment in older Australians, women, children, families, fairness

Tonight’s Federal Budget has delivered much needed investment in older Australians, women, children and families, and the vital community and aged care services that support them.

“We welcome the Albanese Labor Government’s significant funding for aged care, community services, and housing announced in tonight’s Budget”, said UnitingCare Australia National Director, Ms Claerwen Little.

“In our election campaign we urged the Australian Labor Party to share our vision of uniting a caring Australia. We called for investment in older Australians, in women’s equality, and in stagnant incomes. Tonight’s Budget reflects the shared commitment to these vital issues.

“But there is more work to be done as we continue to implement the recommendations of the Aged Care Royal Commission. This includes growing the workforce by 110,000 by 2031 to meet demand while addressing the sector wide funding shortfall.

“We welcome the \$560million for community services and that the funding tonight is an important part of sector-wide reforms to ensure sustainability.

“We must ensure this additional funding goes directly to those who need it. In order to make a real difference in communities the distributive arrangements must also be smart, sensible and suitable for the times.

“But we are deeply concerned that nothing in this Budget provides immediate cost of living relief.

“We hope that in keeping faith with Australians, this Government truly creates a better future. UnitingCare Australia remains committed to doing everything we can to bring this vision to life – and delivering the hope that Australians need and deserve.”

UnitingCare Australia is one of the most influential and innovative social services organisations in the country, providing more than \$5 billion in support to more than 1.4 million Australians every year.

The UnitingCare Network employs 50,000 workers, with a further 30,000 volunteers, across 1,600 sites throughout Australia, making it one of the nation’s largest employers.

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