

Home and Community Care Services

— Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Home and Community Care (HACC) - Caring for the community, in the community



What is the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program?

Most people want to live in their own home, but some elders and people with a disability can find this difficult without support. Help can be provided by carers (family and friends) and by HACC and other services.

HACC can provide basic support services so that elders and people with a disability can continue to live in their community. These services provide eligible people with help at home, support in getting out into the community, and a break for carers.

HACC services are offered in your home or local community and may be provided by a HACC agency, community health centre or local council. In some areas there are HACC agencies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

What are HACC services?

HACC services provided in the community include:

- **Centre-based day respite**
Culturally appropriate care, company and group activities in the centre, and short trips such as fishing trips, barbeques, beach picnics.
- **Transport**
Helps people get out and about to a day centre, shopping or appointments.
- **Social support**
Gives clients a hand by taking them shopping, banking or to appointments, or just providing company for a yarn.

HACC services provided at home may include:

- **Domestic assistance (home help/home care)**
Household jobs like cleaning, clothes washing and ironing.
- **Personal care**
Includes help with bathing or showering, dressing, hair care and toileting.
- **Home maintenance**
Home maintenance is general repair and care of a client's house or yard (for example, changing light bulbs, fixing door locks).
- **Home modification**
Services can install safety aids like alarms, ramps and support rails in your home.
- **Community nursing**
Provided in your home by a qualified nurse or an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker.

Some HACC services can be provided either at a community centre or in your home:

- **Food services**
If it is hard for you to prepare meals, these services may include:
 - providing meals at a community centre or day centre
 - helping with shopping for food, preparing and storing it
 - delivering meals to your home



Information about the artist and the HACC painting: The artist is Georgina Altona of the Gomeroi (Kamilaroi) Nation. She lives in Tamworth, NSW. The painting represents the Tree of Knowledge – forever growing, branching out and spreading her wisdom, spreading the seeds of knowledge in the winds to all the lands. Through this knowledge we learn the spirit of giving and healing. WE ARE THE HEART AND SOUL OF OUR ANCESTORS.

Home maintenance and modification



Centre based day respite

- **Allied health services**

For people having problems with their feet or speech, or needing help with ongoing problems resulting from an accident or illness. Services include physiotherapy (exercises), podiatry (foot care), speech pathology, occupational therapy (useful home aids) and advice from a dietitian (healthy tucker).

- **Respite care**

Gives carers a break from their caring role. A respite worker looks after the person needing care so the carer can enjoy other activities and interests. This service can be provided at a day centre or in your home.

- **Support services for carers**

As well as respite care, there are other support services for carers. You can get details of these in the HACC brochure *Are you caring for someone at home?* Ask your local service provider for a copy.

Who is eligible for a HACC service?

HACC services are for people who need help to continue living at home in the community because:

- they are elders who have difficulty with everyday tasks, such as showering, getting dressed or doing housework, or
- they are a younger person with a moderate to severe disability, and
- they are at risk of having to go into a nursing home or aged people's hostel

HACC services are also available for people who are caring for an elder or someone with a disability.

How do I get a HACC service?

You, your doctor or hospital, a family member or friend can contact:

- Commonwealth Carelink Centre to discuss your needs, or
- your local HACC service coordinator for an assessment of your needs (contact details this page).

Services for younger people with a disability



Support services for carers

Assessment

In order to assess your needs, a person from a HACC agency talks to you about how you are coping with your daily living. The information you provide is written in the HACC Ongoing Needs Identification (ONI) form. This is used by the HACC agency to decide whether you are eligible for a service and what type of service you need to assist you to remain living at home.

Will I have to pay for a HACC service?

Each HACC service has its own policy on fees, but most services ask for a small contribution, depending on your situation. Special consideration is given to people with limited finances.

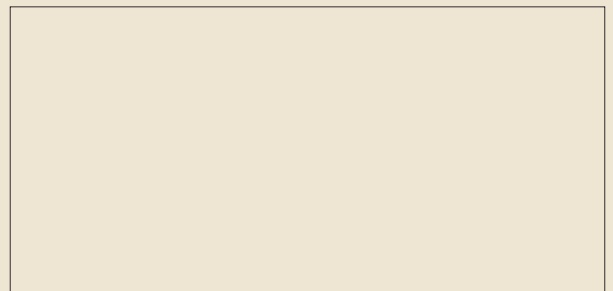
Need more information?

To find out about HACC services in your area, contact:

COMMONWEALTH CARELINK CENTRE*
on **1800 052 222**** (Freecall™ business hours)

Your doctor: Your doctor can work with other services to assist you to ask for the care you need.

Or phone your local **HACC agency**



Or visit
www.health.qld.gov.au/hacc

* Provides free information about community aged care, disability and other support services.

** Calls from mobile phones are charged at applicable rates.

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