



South West Sydney Ageing Forum

A Network of Services Working Together to Support Older People, People with a Disability and their Carers to remain Independent in the Community

www.supportservices.org.au

Minutes – SWS Ageing Forum – August 2025

Chair: Minute Taker:	Danielle Taylor Krystle Sands
Apologies:	Sandra Loyola-Sandoval, Eunice Sansour, Naomi Douglas, Anna Coelho, Julie Dunne
Attendees:	Adam McCann, Simone Lucidi, Nikki Ali, Siddhi Sarnaik, Lucie Downer, Christin , Stephen Neville, Colleen O'Rourke, Sarah Ryan, Kimberley Rainer, Fina Kimati, Zeinab Abdi Ahmed, Jennifer Sharkey, Fatima Daraji, Dhafir Mohsen, Danielle Taylor, Rana Qummouh, Maxine Goodwin, Paola Jamett-Caru, Genevieve Sexton, Bimala Lama, Aukan Talukder, Jamila Araste, Lucy Letner, Nikita Pillay.
Meeting Open:	Danielle opened the meeting with an acknowledged to Elders Reminder about the registration process – please register here https://collections.humanitix.com/sws-ageing-forums-2025 . Link will also be posted on the Support Services Website along with Agenda's and Minutes. House Keeping
Guest Speaker:	Maxine Goodwin and Rana Qummouh – SWSLHD - Social prescribing Pilot <ul style="list-style-type: none">Opened with a survey to get an understanding about people's knowledge of social prescribing and how to connect with a link worker (Maxine's role).Raised that it is Loneliness Awareness WeekVideo – keeping well in communityTeam of clinicians all over SWS - all the way down to BowralAim is to assist people who have chronic conditions and frequently presenting to hospitalClinicians can reach out to them and navigate them through the health care services, provide advocacy and provide health care assessments.For people who are in the community experiencing social isolation can be linked with a link worker (Maxine's role).

- Combined model of care – clinician will address their care needs – all the factors (12-week period) comprehensive assessment than link them to the correct people.
- Once referred to the link worker, goals and needs will be established including the person's social needs.
- Care navigation plan put together – the link workers can connect the person with social groups and other services to help them feel connected, sometimes they might try something, and it doesn't work and can connect them with something else. Can extend if the person needs additional support.
- Supporting social health and mental health – wholistic model of care.

Question – *can people living in Residential care access?* – not likely, it's a community based program, there is the Volunteer visitor scheme available for Residential.

- Compassionate FROME Project – people that didn't have their social needs met realised it made their health deteriorate. UK has integrated the model for some time now and only now being implemented in Australia. WHO recognises that social connection is also important and impacts on people's health.
- Question to consider - Thinking about our roles how will this benefit? A lot of people don't know this program exists. How could your clients benefit from the program?
- Client story – how social prescribing works and how the link worker can support.
- Identifying loneliness – people can be around people but still feel lonely. The relationships around them don't always meet their needs. Having a link worker can help support them to connect with relevant groups and activities.
- Referral form QR code on the slides. Lengthy form, however, you can send an email or phone. If unsure, contact the team. Translator material is also available.
- Keep in mind it is a pilot program – really want to demonstrate this is a good program so need lots of referrals.

Guest Speaker:	Adam McCann – Long Service Corporation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portable long service leave. Different to traditional long service leave. 3 schemes running in NSW. Construction, contract cleaning and now the new scheme for Community Service. • Mandatory program, all community organisations should be signed up. If unsure, contact Long Service Corporation. • It goes with you between employees. Traditional long service people had to work 10 years with one employer. Now with new scheme – 7-years to access. • Employer contributions – 1.7% of gross ordinary wages. • Levies paid by the employer via gross wages funds the program • Anyone registered in the scheme within first 6 months receives Bonus Service Credits – Then can access LSL after only 6 years. • Eligibility – (see full list on slide). Larger Childcare and aged care for profit not organisations are not eligible. Smaller aged care organisation will be eligible, require a predominant purpose. • Workers – full time and part time, and casual, delivery of community services, or hire a few people to do community services. • Out of scope – Government employees, partners and directors of businesses. • Required to have a predominant purpose – Long Service Corporation can assist with this. • Transitional arrangements – Act 2024. Anything under the 1955 Act, you don't lose but it doesn't pick up and move into the new Act. Acts don't talk to each other. • Examples – see slides. • Breaks in service – can take up to 4 years off without losing Long Service Leave. Leave the industry – if you have been in the scheme for 5 years but want to leave the industry, can request a pro-rata payment instead of taking long service leave. • From 1 July – predominant purpose and register – it is a mandatory scheme. Keep track of workers service etc. Budget for levy payments of 1.7% - payments start from April 2026. • Next steps – contact details (flyer available). Receive Newsletter updates. Education also available, and they can present at organisations.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a worker, you don't need to register, the employer will submit service returns which will include details and will register you (if your details were included). <p>For more support and information</p> <p>Long Service Corporation Contacts:</p> <p>Phone: 13 14 41</p> <p>Email: info@longservice.nsw.gov.au</p> <p><u>Community Services Industry homepage</u></p> <p><u>Register as an employer</u></p> <p><u>Subscribe to community services industry scheme updates</u></p> <p>Engagement</p> <p>Requests: communityservices@longservice.nsw.gov.au</p> <p>Links to previous webinars:</p> <p><u>Preparing for the Community Services Sector Portable Long Service Leave (Webinar)</u></p> <p><u>Preparing HR and Payroll staff for Portable Long Service Leave (Webinar)</u></p>
Guest Speaker:	<p>Facing Dementia Together – University of Sydney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dementia Facing Together Research project between university & councils Lots of stigma around dementia – help people talk about dementia to reduce stigma Partnering with local councils and community groups to give free talks and keep everyone connected. Happy to be part of senior's expos and events and network groups etc. Trying to reach people who have dementia and their families. Trying to open the dialogue. See Dementia Checklist

Sector Updates	<p>Krystle Sands – Macarthur Disability Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules published • CHSP Manual • Support at Home Version 3 manual and other resources • Volunteer Resources • Surveys – Mandatory Volunteer Training & In-Home Support (future of Sector Support & Development) • Training available for CHSP providers <p>Slides with links to all resources available.</p>
Info Share / General Business	<p>Everyone introduced themselves and provided a quick service update.</p> <p>Guest speaker request - Department of Housing to talk about the housing issues around SWS.</p> <p>Meeting ended at 10:56am</p>
Next Meeting	<p>Tuesday 14th October 2025, 10:00am-11:30am AEDT Online Via Teams</p> <p>https://events.humanitix.com/sws-ageing-forum-october-2025</p>

Information Share

Bernadette Williams, SWSLHD: Your Local Care Partner is a organisation run by a group of Registered Nurses with a minimum of 15 years working for NSW health with varying specialities. Our office is located in Fairfield, however we service all of Sydney metro. Contact 1800 024 034 for further information or look up ylcp.com.au on all social media.

Julie Dunne, Ageing Australia: Ageing Australia CHSP Advisory Hub, The CHSP advisory hub is a place you can go to find resources that will assist your organisation in accessing what you need, when you need it. The Ageing Australia sector support and development (SSD) teamwork with other SSD providers to support the work they do and ensure you have access to resources from all over the country. If you need any further assistance or would like to provide us with feedback, please feel free to contact us: Get in Touch or email chspadvisory@ageingaustralia.asn.au

Jennifer Sharkey, Your Local Care Partner: Your Local Care Partner (YLCP) is a family-run, person centred care provider in South West Sydney. Founded by experienced nurses, we are dedicated to delivering compassionate and professional supports to our customers. YLCP provides Nursing care, Community access, domestic help, art classes both individually and groups and companionship. Contact us on 0482 055597, Email: supports@ylcp.com.au or visit our Website : www.ylcp.com.au

Shabana Rafik, IRT: IRT Group is one of Australia's largest community-based seniors' lifestyle and care providers, operating throughout NSW, ACT and Queensland. Our mission is to create communities where seniors achieve their optimum quality of life. We've been delivering on this mission for more than 45 years. IRT returns profits to the community through customer benevolence and IRT Foundation's grants and advocacy programs. The changing needs of our customers and employees ensure that we continue to be innovative and dynamic whilst remaining true to our foundation. IRT currently has capacity to take up Home Care Packages and support clients with their service requests in Sydney. Shabana Rafik (She/Her/Hers) Customer Development Manager IRT Home Care Sydney & Illawarra T 02 4221 6600 | M 0436 276 466

Kimberly Rainer, SWSLHD: Walking Soccer for 65 years and over - Fairfield, Liverpool and Campbelltown hubs are now established. First session is free! Heart foundation grant enabled subsides (\$60 per year, but can be reduced to \$30 if attend multiple times) Contact Kim (NSW Health - Health Promotion Service) 0477 386 412