

# Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Aged Care Fund welcomed

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) welcomes the Australian Labor Party's commitment to establish a [Culturally and Linguistically Diverse \(CALD\) Aged Care Fund](#).

Migrant communities are ageing at a faster rate than the population at large. According to the 2011 Census, 20.1 per cent of Australians 65+ were born in non-English speaking countries. Current projections indicate that by 2020, 30 per cent of the population aged 65 years and above will be from CALD backgrounds.

The Labor party have pledged \$30 million over four years for the CALD Aged Care Fund, which will go towards resourcing key investments in aged care facilities, supporting older Australians from CALD backgrounds to receive culturally appropriate care, as well as build upon the recently announced ageing with dignity and dementia packages.

FECCA Acting Chairperson Eugenia Grammatikakis said, "FECCA welcomes this funding commitment by the Labor party. We believe that targeted measures are necessary to respond to and support Australia's ageing CALD population. Our vision is for older CALD Australians to be empowered to receive appropriate services and supports when and how they need them, as well as for aged care to be culturally appropriate and competent."

FECCA Healthy Ageing Chair Mary Patetsos said, "The Labor party's recognition of the social and economic contribution of older CALD migrants to Australia is welcome. If people from diverse backgrounds are adequately supported and resourced, they will age with dignity."

[FECCA's 2020 Vision for Older CALD Australians](#) reiterates the importance of older people from diverse backgrounds receiving equitable access of care so they can age with dignity. FECCA encourages the other parties to recognise the value in supporting CALD people and match this commitment.

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