

# FECCA launches new aged care initiative

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) has launched a new consultative and advisory body aimed at achieving the best possible care for older people of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background.

Headed by the Chairperson of FECCA, Mary Patetsos, the Positive CALD Ageing Network Committee (PCAN) includes representatives of CALD aged care providers and consumer groups as well as members from FECCA.

Ms Patetsos said that the committee would:

- Assist FECCA in creating a comprehensive aged care policy agenda to drive policy and planning;
- Convey its work to relevant community groups;
- Listen to the views of CALD communities; and
- Identify issues and provide evidence-based advice to Government.

“This is an exciting development in one of FECCA’s key policy areas—aged care,” Ms Patetsos said.

“PCAN will provide a strong contribution to the work of FECCA in the aged care space. The Committee is comprised of 10 selected members who will work closely with the groups they represent as well as give voice to the many CALD communities in Australia.

“The requirement for membership on the Committee is demonstrated understanding of CALD ageing and aged care issues. The members are selected upon their individual strengths and not due to their organisational commitments.

“We have a strong representation of the CALD communities across most states and territories, bringing together people who have a demonstrated understanding of current and ongoing legislative reforms in the aged care sector”, Ms. Patetsos said.

Ms Patetsos said that PCAN's membership would be complete when candidates from Tasmania and the Northern Territory joined the Committee. Candidates are invited to nominate.

The Committee (full list below) is expected to meet at least four times a year as well as via teleconference.

FECCA is the national peak body representing Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Our role is to advocate and promote issues on behalf of our constituency to government, business and the broader community.

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FECCA PCAN Committee:

Mary Patetsos	FECCA Chair (SA/National)
Marian Lau	FECCA Healthy Ageing Chair (VIC)
Tina Karanastasis	Ethnic Links Services Manager (SA)
Rosa Colanero	PICAC Alliance Secretary (National)
Ljubica Petrov	Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing (VIC)
Thomas Camporeale	CEO Co.As.It (NSW)
Tina Douvos-Stathopoulos	CEO Pronia (VIC)

Anna Harrison	CEO Umbrella (WA)
Danielja Hlis	Dementia advocate and volunteer (QLD)
Chin Wong	President ACT Chinese Australia Assn (ACT)
Marta Terracciano	CEO Residential Gardens (NSW)
Jeff Fiebig	ACH Group (generalist provider representative) (SA)