

MEDIA RELEASE



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A helping hand for seniors living across the Sunshine Coast

Churches of Christ Care's Sunshine Coast Community Care Program offers personalised and tailored assistance to support older people to remain at home.

When Betty decided she needed help caring for her husband Wally, she didn't know what help was available.

But when she heard about Churches of Christ Care's Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia specific Packages (EACHD) offered through Churches of Christ Care's Sunshine Coast Community Care, she knew she had found the help she was looking for.

"When my husband first came into the EACHD program last September, I couldn't believe how much relief it provided," Betty said.

"It has taken an enormous weight off my shoulders. The girls from the program are excellent; they are very obliging and always fit in with what I need. I can't speak highly enough of them.

"They come every morning and help with my husband's daily personal care and the housework. I am 77 now and not able to look after Wally by myself anymore, and having this help has allowed him to remain at home with me.

"I felt like a queen the first time the girls did my washing and hung it out for me, I hadn't had that done for me in 60 years.

"They give me some respite by staying with Wally while I have a break and they also give Wally a fresh face to talk to and interact with everyday."

Betty said Wally was now in need of 24-hour care. Churches of Christ Care's Community Care Coordinator will assist Wally to access this care.

The Extended Aged Care at Home, Dementia specific (EACHD) Packages are care services for older people which enable them to receive care in their own homes, supporting them to remain as independent as possible.

These packages offer an integrated package of services, which assist older people with a range of support needs by coordinating the different services they need.

"EACHD packages are designed to provide care and support to those aged persons living at home with a higher level of needs," Sunshine Coast Community Care Coordinator Sandy Osmond said.

"An EACHD package may include the provision of nursing and allied health care, meal preparation, transport, cleaning, laundry, showering, social outings, shopping, home maintenance and gardening and transport to appointments."

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Churches of Christ Care's EACH D packages can be provided for people in retirement village units as well as those in their own homes.

For more information about receiving assistance please contact Sandy at the Sunshine Coast Community Care Program on 5413 8511.

Name of client changed for privacy reasons.

ENDS

For further information, please contact:

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About Churches of Christ Care

Churches of Christ Care is a division of Churches of Christ in Queensland—a group of churches that is part of the worldwide Christian church.

We strive to create an inclusive, caring, compassionate environment that meets our clients' needs without discrimination or prejudice. Everyone is welcome to call on our help regardless of their religious background.

Churches of Christ Care is one of Queensland's leading providers of early childhood, child protection, affordable housing, retirement living and aged care services. We are a not-for-profit organisation that supports more than 27,000 clients each year in urban, rural and remote areas.

We operate 137 services throughout Queensland with the support of more than 2,800 staff and over 700 volunteers.

Churches of Christ Care is built on a foundation of Christian values, commitment to quality care, and trust and respect for clients and the community.