



Mission Statement:

"To evidence the Islamic spirit of love, compassion and charity in providing a range of services to the aged of South Asian Muslims in NSW that best meet the physical, spiritual, cultural and emotional needs of the individuals, their families and the Muslim community"

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - APRIL - JUNE / 2013

NCAN LAUNCHED

The National CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) Ageing Network (NCAN) has been launched in April 2013 to strengthen the policy voice and collective representation of CALD individuals and organisations, as priority turns to the needs of an ageing CALD community.

The web-based communication network, coordinated by the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA), will bring together consumers, informal carers, peak bodies and service providers online.

FECCA chairman, Pino Migliorino, said the network will also act as an important tool to implement the CALD Aged Care Strategy announced by the federal government in December. "We want NCAN to be the voice representing the needs and experiences of the older CALD community and for its members to feel empowered and able to be heard," Mr Migliorino told the NCAN launch in Melbourne.

Between 2011 and 2026, Australia's population of older people from CALD backgrounds is expected to increase by over 40 per cent and by 2026, one in four Australians aged 80 and over will be from a CALD background.

Mr Migliorino said the online network will help to create a dialogue on policy issues relevant to CALD background. The online network will help to create a dialogue on policy issues relevant to CALD ageing and aged care, as well as to circulate important information on grant submissions and events. Members of NCAN will be invited to share opinion pieces, contribute articles and to comment on the development of the national CALD Aged Care Strategy.

Mr Migliorino said that with fundamental changes to the aged care system from July 1, facilitating access to resources and information-sharing was fundamental to the intention of the network. Over time through networks grow and interconnect NCAN will become an important capacity building mechanism. It aims to achieve greater equity for CALD elders and relate to the government's aged care reform package, Living Longer Living Better.



JASHNE BUZURG 2013: REPORT ON PAGE 3

Muslim AID Australia is an international relief and development agency working to support and assist the world's poorest and most needy communities regardless of race, creed or nationality.

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SAMAA'S UPCOMING EVENT: FUND RAISING DINNER

SAMAA will be celebrating the upcoming Eid Ul Fitr with the fund raising event. Apart from our elderly, we request broader Muslim community to join us at this event to help SAMAA in meeting its objective of serving the South Asian Muslim elderly. As number of our aged population is to grow exponentially in coming years, it is time that we build adequate facilities which meet religious and cultural specific needs of our elderly. Muslim community of Sydney has proudly raised monies to build mosques over the years which help us achieve Haqooquillah. The building of aged care facilities for our elderly will help us in Haqooqulibad. The funds needed for such projects could not be raised without generous support of the wider community.

The funds are also needed to strengthen SAMAA's volunteer programmes. SAMAA is constantly and relentlessly working towards making sure that the elderly people who need help, get the help from those who can provide for it through our volunteer program – please help us in achieving this important service & noble cause.

It is for these purposes, we are holding this event. We need support from individuals, businesses, charitable foundations, government agencies and major corporations.

The holy month of Ramadan also provides an opportunity to give charity and if you wish to donate during Ramadan, you can do so by visiting our website.

Please dig deep as your donation will go a long way in making world of difference! At SAMAA, we look forward to your continued support.

Your continued support has helped SAMAA establish its position as an aged care service provider in some areas. SAMAA is ready to launch into the next phase of working towards commence building its own facilities. Please consider making as generous a gift as you can.

SAMAA'S FUND RAISING EVENT



WHEN: SATURDAY 24 AUGUST 2013 6 PM
WHERE: MARANA AUDITORIUM, McMAHON STREET, HURSTVILLE NSW

CONTACT: Rubinah Yasmin: 4620 4607 + Mob 0432 284 530, SAMAA :02- 9543 9769, Ayesha Ahmad: 0409 442 861

Contributions : Elderly (70+) \$30, Adult \$50, Table of 10 : \$450 (Sub-continental cuisine dinner with special Eid sweets will be served)

May we request families, community groups, businesses and corporations to book tables of 10 as a gesture of support to a noble cause.

SPONSORS : if you wish to sponsor this event, Please contact Zahid on 0411 114 762

SAMAA (ABN 17 677 354 647) is a public benevolent institution and is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient under the IncomeTax Assessment Act. Donations to SAMAA are therefore tax deductible. It helps you in contributing to a noble cause as well as benefit from tax.

Some major employers also have a policy of matching such donations of their employees. If you work with such an employer, please check with them. SAMAA team request the community members to support SAMAA's mission in serving the elderly.

If you give to charity seeking GOD's pleasure, these are the ones who receive their reward manifold. (HQ 30:39)

"Your Lord has commanded that you worship none but Him, and be kind to your parents. If either or both of them reach old age with you, do not say 'uff' to them or chide them, but speak to them in terms of honour and kindness. Treat them with humility, and say, 'My Lord! Have mercy on them, for they did care for me when I was little.'" (Qur'an 17:23-4)

Care Connect

Care Connect is one of Australia's leading community care organisations supporting thousands of people to live independently at home and in the community. It is a not-for-profit, secular organisation that has been providing community care since 1994. Having 13 offices across VIC, NSW and QLD, CareConnect work with children, young people, adults, older adults and carers and employ 200+ staff. In 2011-12, CareConnect supported 7,300+ people. They specialise in providing services, including complex care, related to aged care, disability, mental health, Acquired Brain Injury, Autism Spectrum Disorder, transitional care, preventative care, dementia, respite.

Specialist community care programs include Dementia Social Support, ATSI Social Support, In-home respite, Dementia Options, Community Aged Care Packages, Extended Aged Care at Home Packages, Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia Packages, Complex Case Support, Private case management.

It can be difficult to get the right information when you need it. Care Connect aims to provide you with quality information to assist you in making the right choice for your needs. To help you with this, they provide you with information about services and support as well as help you assess your needs, help you plan your services and supports, help you organise your services and support, advocate on your behalf, enhance your independence and also assist your carer.

Care Connect specialises in connecting seniors from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds with the services they need to stay at home, independent and engaged with their community. By providing flexible and culturally appropriate assistance to seniors from CALD backgrounds, Care Connect ensures that services are accessible, relevant and tailored to meet the specific needs of the individual.

SAMAA had signed a Memorandum of

understanding with Care Connect couple of years back and have been working together to provide services to our elderly.

Commonwealth HACC Program

The Commonwealth HACC Program provides services that support older people to stay at home and be more independent in the community.

The introduction of the Commonwealth HACC Programme enables the development of a consistent aged care system covering basic care at home through to high level care in aged care homes. Older people are thus able to move seamlessly from basic maintenance, support and care services through to more complex care packages or residential care as their needs change.

The services provided under the Commonwealth HACC Program include:

- nursing care
- allied health services like podiatry, physiotherapy and speech pathology
- domestic assistance, including help with cleaning, washing and shopping
- personal care, such as help with bathing, dressing, grooming and eating
- social support
- home maintenance
- home modifications
- assistance with food preparation in the home
- delivery of meals
- transport
- assessment, client care coordination and case management
- counselling, information and advocacy services
- centre-based day care
- support for carers including respite services

**To find out about services in your area
phone 1800 200 422**



SAMAA CELEBRATED JASHNE BUZURG 2013

South Asian Muslim Association of Australia (SAMAA) celebrated its annual event on 27 April at Auburn Town Hall. Nearly 300 people, including a number of parliamentarians, representatives from aged care agencies along with a large number of elderly & their families, volunteers and well wishers attended the event. Federal Minister for Ageing Hon. Mark Butler sent a video message while those in attendance included Senior Labor MP Laurie Ferguson, Auburn MP and Shadow Minister for Ageing, Disability Services and Mental Health Hon. Barbara Perry who also represented leader of opposition John Robertson, MLC Hon Shaoquett Moslemame, CRC Commissioner Sam Almaliki representing CRC Chair Person Dr Stepan Kerkyashrian, the famous Australian Scientist of Regenerative Neuroscience from Brain & Mind Research Institute at University of Sydney Dr Michael Valenzuela and a few other dignitaries including many senior community leaders.

Ivy Yen, the representative from a major community care provider CareConnect who have arrangements with SAMAA to provide Home Care services, gave a presentation about their services and about changes happening in the sector.

Hon. Mark Butler in his video message congratulated SAMAA for holding Jashne Buzurg. He acknowledged that in the Islamic culture the care of one's elderly parents is considered an honour and a blessing. He spoke about the \$3.7 billion plan which was announced by the Prime Minister Julia Gillard to modernise the aged care system so that it provides the dignity and independence that our elders deserve in later life – regardless of their background. The package – called Living Longer Living Better - is a 10-year blueprint to establish an aged care system that will serve Australia well in the 21st century. And the plan will ensure that we have an aged care system that respects culture and difference and gives older people more choice about where and how they receive support and care.

Hon Laurie Ferguson again applauded SAMAA for its principled stands and commitment. Hon Barbara Perry appreciated SAMAA members for their effort and guaranteed full support from her office. Hon. Laurie Ferguson also presented SAMAA's volunteering awards to Abu Bakar Khan Sadozai, Mrs Naila Hassan and Mrs Irmi Khan for excellence in volunteering with SAMAA.

The Keynote speaker, Dr Michel Valenzuela delivered a captivating talk on how to maintain your brain as you age. He spoke about physical and mental activity in order to prevent dementia. He spoke about the neuro-revolution- a process termed neurogenesis- which proves that we continue to make new brain cells even during old age. A book 'Maintain Your Brain' by Dr Valenzuela proved very popular amongst the audience.

SAMAA official Mr Zahid Jamil briefed the audience about various SAMAA programmes. He said that over past 12 months our main focus has been the volunteering programme through which SAMAA elderly have been receiving different kinds of services from SAMAA volunteers. SAMAA has divided Sydney into 7 major regional areas and it aims to to have a nursing home (with whom SAMAA has signed MOU) and a local volunteering group in each area. He also spoke about challenges in accessing funding for various projects.

He said that there have been instances when a business person of the community has expressed interest in building an aged care facility. SAMAA is always willing to cooperate with any such person or group so as to expedite the objective of building a community aged care facility. If such a facility is built, SAMAA will like to increase its equity by gradually buying units in it once it has sufficient funds to do so.

A well known Indian artist Prabhu played a very special music called OSONIQS which induces the silence of the soul, invokes the connection to nature and kindles the celebration of life. According to him, this music takes a journey through the enchanted uncharted landscape of sound and vibration.

Following dinner a special feature called 'Yaad-E-Raftagan' entertained audience with some very popular video clips of shows of famous artists and Bollywood films of past 60 years. The famous singer Riyaz Shah also entertained audience with a few songs.

A few Elderly received gifts from SAMAA and every body enjoyed the evening thoroughly.

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