The State of Ageing

An Aged Care Service Provider’s Perspective of an Ageing Community

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Resthaven Inc.
3/12/10
Outline

- Overview of Resthaven
- Demographic context
- Perceptions of older people
- Examples of Service Provider responses
An aged care community service of the Uniting Church in Australia (SA Synod)
Resthaven Incorporated

- Established in 1935
- Agency of Uniting Church, Charity, Public Benevolent Institution
- Services include:
  - Residential (high and low care accommodation)
  - Community (in-home care and support)
  - Therapy (physiotherapy, speech pathology, occupational therapy, podiatry, continence management, etc)
  - Respite for carers (residential, in-home, centre-based and overnight)
  - Housing (independent living units)
  - Transition care (from hospital to home)
Locations

- Across metropolitan Adelaide
- Riverland (Loxton)
- Adelaide Hills
- Murray Bridge
- Strathalbyn
- Millicent
- Naracoorte
- Mt Gambier
- Port Elliot
Resthaven Incorporated

- **Budget**: $85 million
- **Workforce**:
  - 1600 employees
  - 450 volunteers
- **Average age of service recipients**:
  - Residential Services (1,000+): 88 years
  - Community Services (7,000+ living at home): 76 years
Baby Boomers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>65</th>
<th>70</th>
<th>80</th>
<th>85+ years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2026</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1965</td>
<td>2025</td>
<td>2030</td>
<td>2035</td>
<td>2045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Baby Boomers expectations!

Median Age admitted to care in 2007-08: 85yrs

(Source: Residential Aged Care in Australia 2007—2008, A statistical overview, June 2009)
Older Old Age Population

- **85+ years**
  
  2010: 1.8% (400,000)
  2050: 5.1% (1.8 million) “Quadruple”
  (IGR3, page10)

- **100+ years**

  2001: 2,503 people
  2055: 78,000 people
  (DoHA website, For Health Professionals, Aged Care in Australia 2006, part 1)
Demographics

- **Dementia**
  - 2009: 245,000
  - 2050: 1.3 million

  (Access Economics, Keeping dementia front of Mind; incidence and prevalence, Alzheimer’s Australia)

- 19% Born Overseas – Mainly Non-English Speaking Countries
Encourage positive images of older people

- Consider the stereotypes
  - of older people and
  - of working with older people

- What can service providers do?
AGED CARE ABUSE

Many rewards in aged care

Beat the myths of aged care

Two-year wait for care

Elderly living in fear

Reprisals concern family of aged care centre

The Advertiser, January 24, 2006

The Advertiser, February 2, 2007

The Advertiser, July 7, 2007
Saying Makes It So?

Bed Blocker

Old, infirm and abused

Elderly clogging the system

Can’t teach an old dog new tricks

Fears the aged will burden our hospitals
12:00a.m. 22 April 2008 | By Kerryn Manifold
A Healthy Ageing Focus

- Older people are:
  - Active participants
  - Valuable contributors, with valuable roles

- Increasing numbers represent a potential resource

- Encourage active and healthy lifestyles
Community Development and Citizenship
The ‘Glue’ of Families
Transmitters of Cultural Traditions
‘Make the Difference’ Commercial
‘Golden Gurus’
Key Challenges

- Workforce and Service Models
- Information, Access and Choice
- Sustainability and viability of service system
Workforce

- Competitive wage levels
- Shortage of nurses and other workers
- Regulation: targeted and limited
  - Controlled Substances Act
  - Qualifications, Registration
Workforce

- Models of care
- New roles
  - Nurse Practitioner
  - Flexibility in roles
- Image of work in aged care,
  attracting staff eg scholarship program
Information, Access and Choice

- Access and entitlement
  - Information is key (navigation)
  - Timely assessment for eligibility
  - Access when needed, when eligible
    (supply and entitlement)
  - Resthaven “AgedCare Alternatives Centre”

- Supply and competition—what is the market?

- Focus on Community Services and rehabilitation
Sustainability / Viability

- **Key elements of a sustainable service system:**
  - Adequate funding in residential and community within an appropriate regulatory system
  - Adequate indexation—residential/community
  - User charges will increase – means tested
  - Adequate accommodation funding
    - Resident — flexible lump sum payments
    - Government – accommodation subsidy aligned