

WHAT IS AGED CARE?

When someone finds it difficult to go about their daily chores and look after themselves independently, outside help is often required. Family and friends will fill this role for as long as possible, but when it becomes too much for them, there are outside organisations that can help.

Outside help generally comes in three forms: **Retirement Villages / Assisted Living, Home Care, or Residential Aged Care.**

RETIREMENT LIVING / ASSISTED LIVING

This involves the person moving out of their home into a community setting that caters for retirees and the elderly with services to meet their social and lifestyle needs.

Living quarters are similar to that of an apartment or unit, with many villages providing communal areas such as halls and sports and recreation facilities.

Most of these communities will have either carers available at short notice or carers on site 24 hours to meet the health needs of the community. Meals, cleaning, transportation and other services can be provided if needed on a user pays system.

This type of living arrangement best suits those with minimal care needs looking to down-size.

Arcare does not provide retirement living or assisted living.

HOME CARE

Outside carers who are qualified to assist in personal hygiene, domestic duties, transport and nursing can come to the home of the person requiring care. This is done as required and the care recipient will typically pay for the time of the carer. This type of care is performed in the person's home and doesn't require them to leave their home.

The care can be as little as a few hours per week to 24 hours per day. This is normally arranged directly between the care recipient (or their family) and the care provider. A GP is often the first person to contact to arrange this type of care.

Arcare provides care services in the home. Please call 1300 272 273.

RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE

Residential aged care is for those who can no longer cope at home by themselves or with the support of a spouse or family. Most aged care providers are approved by the Australian Government and they receive federal funding to help cover the cost of a resident's care. Those wishing to enter aged care require a health assessment prior to entry. (See page 2 for the steps required to enter residential aged care.)

The person requiring care lives in the aged care residence full time and has all of their personal care and living arrangements taken care of (to the degree to which they require). This includes: 24 hour care, all meals, laundry, cleaning, utilities (electricity, gas, water etc.) and some lifestyle activities / outings.

Family and friends are welcome and actively encouraged to visit residents, who can leave the residence overnight for up to 52 nights per year.

Arcare has 27 aged care residences across Victoria & SE Queensland. Please call 1300 272 273.



ENTRY INTO AN ARCARE RESIDENCE

ENTRY PROCESS

Before entering an Arcare aged care residence, all of the following three steps must be undertaken by the incoming resident (or their representative).

ARCARE ENTRY PROCESS		
1. ACAT / ACAS ASSESSMENT	2. CENTRELINK / DVA ASSESSMENT	3. APPLICATION FORM
Arrange through GP, www.myagedcare.gov.au or on 1800 200 422	Contact Department of Human Services via www.humanservices.gov.au or on 1800 227 474	Call Arcare on 1300 272 273 or visit www.arcare.com.au

1. ACAT / ACAS ASSESSMENT

This assessment lets us know what type of care your loved one may require, and allows us to claim government funding to reduce their fees. Aged Care Assessments are conducted by mobile ACAS / ACAT teams. Your local GP can assist with arranging an assessment, or regional ACAT / ACAS teams can be easily contacted on 1800 200 422 or at www.myagedcare.gov.au. There is often a wait of a few weeks for assessments, so it is best to organise this as early as possible.

2. CENTRELINK / DVA ASSESSMENT

The government requires those who can afford to contribute more towards their care to do so. As such, every person entering aged care, including those applying for a financially supported place, must have an assets and income assessment. This assessment will determine if a resident qualifies for a government supported place or will pay an additional Means Tested Care Fee. Forms can be obtained from the Department of Human Services via www.humanservices.gov.au or by calling 1800 227 475.

3. ARCARE APPLICATION FORM

An application form details personal information about the prospective resident. Arcare application forms are available directly from any Arcare residence, from our website www.arcare.com.au or by calling us on 1300 272 273.

