

**20
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Federal Election RAISE YOUR VOICE

A future for aged care

The aged care system is under pressure. With a growing population of older people, this is set to get worse over the next ten years unless we work harder to address these problems in the next term of government.

To create an aged care system that's fit for the future, we need to kick start a slowed reform agenda.

- Create a single, simplified home care program
- Establish a single national assessment system to streamline access to services
- Reform aged care funding to accurately reflect the cost of providing quality care
- Provide funding to implement the national aged care workforce strategy.

The longer term sustainability of aged care needs a radical rethink. To meet the projected increase in demand over coming years, increased investment will be needed by governments, consumers and aged care providers.

We need to start the planning process now to ensure that in the future, we have quality aged care services that meet both demand and community expectations.

The Aged Care Royal Commission is currently underway, and due to report by 30 April 2020. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create an aged care system that's fit for purpose for the next generations of older Australians. That's a great opportunity, but makes it more difficult to ask for firm commitments from potential governments about their plans before the Royal Commission's recommendations are known.

We particularly want to see commitments to providing sustainable, secure funding to meet the growing needs of older Australians, regardless of the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

About us

Baptist Care Australia works to bring equality and opportunity to Australian communities, advocating nationally on issues such as homelessness, aged care and domestic violence. We represent Baptist community service organisations and their clients in the national policy debate.

A core principle in our work is to make sure that the interests and voices of marginalised people are heard when decisions are made that affect them.

Baptist Care Australia [member organisations](#) are hard at work every day to build strong communities across Australia. From aged care to counselling, social housing to caring for children and young people, our members help people get back on their feet after hard times, or live independently with the right support. Members employ more than 9000 staff, work with 2500 volunteers and have an annual turnover of \$700 million.

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AUSTRALIA A voice
for hope

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