



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

10th May 2005

DSS6 AGED CARE SERVICES
FILE: * JLM

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the services provided and funding received for Aged Care Services through Kempsey Shire Council.



Macleay Community Care Options (MCCO) offers support services to maintain frail aged, younger people with a disability and their carers, who are at risk of premature or inappropriate institutionalisation, to remain living in their own homes. MCCO is auspiced by Kempsey Shire Council, however is fully funded by the State and Commonwealth governments.

At the present time, Kempsey Shire Council receives \$948,899 for the provision of five aged care programs. The total amount of grants received for each program are as follows:

Program	Funding	Amount
Community Aged Care Packages	Federal	\$408,958
Veterans' Home Care	Federal	\$213,681
Community Options	State	\$152,125
Neighbour Aid	State	\$99,135
Boronia Day Centre	State	\$75,000

The overall purpose of these various programs is to provide support services to residents of Kempsey Shire that allow them to remain living independently as long as possible in their own home. Kempsey Shire Council is a leader in Local Government in terms of the amount of funding secured and the range of programs that this allows the community to benefit from.

Macleay Community Care Options is located in the Macleay Valley Community Care Centre along with four other Home and Community Care (HACC) & Disability funded services. The building, which Council owns, was acquired under a HACC grant and Council input. It was the aim of the Department of Ageing, Disability & Home Care to have aged care and disability care programs in the same building to assist target groups to access appropriate services under the one roof.

Community Care Packages

The Community Aged Care Packages program is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. Community Aged Care Packages are planned and co-ordinated packages of community care services to help people with complex care needs. Kempsey Shire Council is currently funded for 35 clients. These packages are designed differently for each individual and are based on their particular needs. The types of services which may be offered in a Community Aged Care Package include:

- Personal care (showering)
- Meals
- Laundry
- Dressing
- Domestic Assistance
- Transport
- Gardening
- Social Activities
- Supervision of medication
- Advocacy
- Minor home modification
- Case Management

Co-ordinators – Jo McGoldrick and Anne Flanagan

Community Options

The Community Options Project is funded by the Home and Community Care Program (HACC), through the Department of Ageing Disability and Home Care (DADHC). Kempsey Community Options is currently funded for 30 clients. Clients usually require high level and / or short term high level service and case management. Potential clients are most often referred by other service providers or the Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT). Community Options is a brokerage model of service. Services are delivered to meet individual and changing client needs. Macleay Community Care Options field workers employed by Kempsey Shire Council (KSC) also provide a large amount of these services. These may include:

- Personal Care
- Domestic Assistance
- Meal Preparation
- Shopping
- Lawn Mowing
- Social Support
- Transport
- Case Management

Co-ordinator - Glenda Hipwell

Neighbour Aid Program

This program is also funded by the Home and Community Care Program (HACC), through the DADHC. Current funding is for 40 clients. The aim of this program is to assist people requiring low level support services to remain in their own homes. Assistance is provided by trained volunteers and KSC field workers to provide the following services:

- Companionship
- Transport
- Meal Preparation
- Shopping
- Lawn Mowing
- Domestic Assistance
- Social Support

Co-ordinator - Anne Flanagan (also the regional representative for the Mid North Coast).

Boronia Gardens Day Centre

This is the most recently established HACC funded program through DADHC. Boronia Gardens Day Centre is a centre based program which operates twice weekly on Wednesdays and Saturdays from the Council owned, Boronia Gardens Hall in South West Rocks. The Centre commenced on the 18th August 2004. Within this short period a strong client base has been established, with an average 13 people attending each session.

To assist with the co-ordination of this service MCCO received a non-recurrent grant for a 10 seater bus to transport clients to and from the weekly outings. Macleay Community Care Options also has a 12 seater Mercedes bus that was acquired from the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care after the 2000 Para Olympics.

A range of activities are programmed each week, designed to support, challenge and enhance the psychological, spiritual, social, emotional and physical well being of participants. These include reminiscence, mental stimulation such as quizzes, crosswords, cards and dominoes. Light exercise in the form of games such as darts, quoits, bocce bowls and carpet bowls also feature in the program.

Weather permitting, each Wednesday involves social programs, which including outings to places of interest and luncheons. Some of the recent highlights include:

- A cruise along the Macleay River
- A visit to the Kempsey Museum
- Lunch and Tour of Cassegrain Vineyards
- Tours of the Upper Macleay

Co-ordinator – Glenda Hipwell

Veterans' Home Care

Macleay Community Care Options is the service provider for Veterans' Home Care in the Kempsey and Hastings Shires. Currently we service over 150 clients. Veterans' Home care aims to help Veterans' and war widows / widowers with low care needs to remain living in their own home. It is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs and provides a range of home support services which may include:

- Domestic Assistance
- Personal Care
- Home and Garden Maintenance
- Respite Care (in home and emergency respite)

Co-ordinator – Jo McGoldrick

Staff

As well as the two Aged Care Co-ordinators, Jo McGoldrick and Anne Flanagan, and Program Co-ordinator Glenda Hipwell, additional aged care workers employed by Council include:

Administration assistant – Renee Reardon
5 Permanent Part Time Field Workers
4 Casual Field Workers
Neighbour Aid Program has 7 active volunteers

As well as staff employed by KSC, MCCO brokers service to other private and HACC funded organisations and businesses. The predominant services are:

- Helping Hand Nursing Service
- Kempsey Meals on Wheels
- Stanhope Nursing Service
- The Rocks Indoor Outdoor
- Llewelyn's Café at Gladstone
- Kempsey Home Care
- Goori Home Modifications
- The Grey Army (Port Macquarie)

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

▪ ***Environmental***

There are no environmental implications from the following recommendation.

▪ ***Social***

The services that MCCO provides through government grants has ongoing beneficial social impacts for the elderly living in our Shire.

This community care approach is in line with the government's commitment to provide services for people in their home, which has a two-fold benefit:

- *Reduces the demand on costly residential care*
- *Allow elderly people to remain in their own home for longer, which is what most people desire.*

Volunteer participation improves social capital within the Shire by fostering companionship and social support to isolated elderly residents of the Macleay.

Macleay Community Care Options' philosophy is to employ local organisations and individuals to provide necessary services, which leads to greater employment opportunities for residents of Kempsey Shire.

▪ *Economic (Financial)*

All services and programs are 100% funded by either the Commonwealth or State Government.

▪ *Policy or Statutory*

There are no policy or statutory implications from the following recommendation.

▪ *Director's Review*

This report provides a brief overview of Aged Care Services and further details are available from the Manager Community Services and Lifestyle.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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K J Finnie
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES