



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck
Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians
Minister for Youth and Sport

Senator Sam McMahon
Senator for the Northern Territory

8 July 2019

DELIVERING NEW AGED CARE SERVICE FOR NHULUNBUY

The Morrison Government is delivering over \$20 million to build a new aged care service for Nhulunbuy in East Arnhem Land.

Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians Richard Colbeck said delivering safe, quality aged care services in remote areas is vital for maintaining strong communities.

“Our Government is committed to delivering aged care services for senior Australians in remote areas because it is important people are able to age where they have lived, worked and raised their family.

“For Indigenous communities in places like Nhulunbuy it is particularly vital that elders are able to maintain strong connections with country and remain leaders in the local area.

“For this reason the Nhulunbuy Flexible Aged Care Service was also designed in close consultation with locals, which has ensured buildings and outdoor spaces are appropriate for Indigenous cultural activities and customs.”

The project is supported by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care (NATSIFAC) Program, which funds organisations to provide culturally appropriate aged care so people can remain close to their homes and communities.

The development of the Nhulunbuy Flexible Aged Care Service is a collaboration between the Commonwealth and Australian Regional and Remote Community Services (ARRCS).

ARRCS Group General Manager, Ms Tamra Bridges, said the partnership with the local community would also be important in delivering flexible aged care services in the area.

“We greatly look forward to partnering with local communities to help develop and implement culturally appropriate aged care services in East Arnhem Land and contributing to the improvement of aged care service quality and accessibility for Indigenous Australians,” Ms Bridges said.

“A key focus for ARRCS during the development phase will be to build a local skilled workforce from within the Nhulunbuy and East Arnhem Land communities.”

It is expected construction of the home will start in late 2019 with completion in 2021. The home will have 32 ensuite rooms and a palliative unit.

New Northern Territory Country Liberal Senator Sam McMahon welcomed the investment in local aged care services.

“This new Nhulunbuy aged care service will also provide the option of home-based care so that people receive the support they need in their own homes later in life,” Senator McMahon said.

“Delivering this new service will also provide long-term jobs for local people to staff the new home and jobs during construction.”

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