

## Who Would I Be Visiting?

The Coordinator will connect each Visitor with an older Aboriginal person either living in an aged care facility or still living at home. (This match will be based on similar interests, hobbies, religious beliefs, sports or other social activities.)

A Visitor may visit or entertain a group of Aboriginal Elders in the Aboriginal Elders Village at Davoren Park who perhaps all have the same interest in e.g. country music, or speak the same Aboriginal dialect.

A Visitor may be visiting the only Aboriginal resident of a large mainstream aged care facility.

## Aboriginal Elders & Community Care Services

Aboriginal Elders and Community Care Services (AECCS) are the auspicing organisation for the Community Visitor Scheme. All volunteers are responsible to the organisation and are covered by Volunteer Insurance of the organisation.

Approved reimbursements will be made for out of pocket expenses incurred by the Visitor during the course of a visit.

If you would like to become a Visitor, please contact the Coordinator on PH: 8346 9155

### Home Care

67 Henley Beach Road,  
Mile End SA 5031

t: (08) 8346 9155

f: (08) 8346 9766

e: [homecare@aboriginalccsa.org.au](mailto:homecare@aboriginalccsa.org.au)

### Elders Village

2 Oldford Street,  
Davoren Park SA 5113

t: (08) 8287 1454

f: (08) 8287 1580

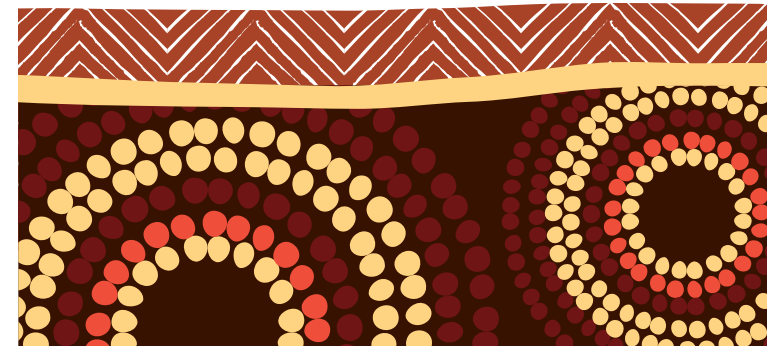
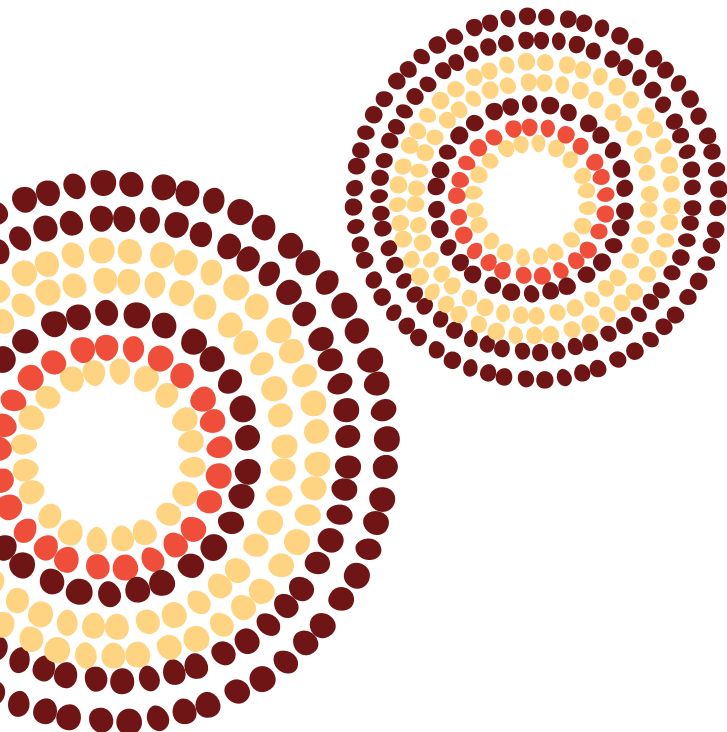
e: [eldersvillage@aboriginalccsa.org.au](mailto:eldersvillage@aboriginalccsa.org.au)

[www.aboriginalccsa.org.au](http://www.aboriginalccsa.org.au)

# Community Visitors Scheme



A Commonwealth Government Initiative



The Community Visitors Scheme for older Aboriginal people living in the metropolitan region of the state, began in August 2014. Aboriginal Elders & Community Care Services is the host organisation of the scheme which now employs a Coordinator to facilitate the program.



The aim of the scheme is to ensure that older Aboriginal people who are residents in an aged care facility or who still live in their own homes (and are in receipt of a Home Care Package), remain connected to the general Aboriginal Community. It is important that the quality of life of each older Aboriginal person is enhanced by regular contact with a Community Visitor from the scheme.

Often elderly Aboriginal people, particularly those living in residential facilities become socially isolated if regular positive contact is not maintained between them, their family members, friends and general community activities. This can cause depression, anxiety, loneliness and diminished feelings of self-esteem and self-worth.

The services of the Community Visitors Scheme are provided by Volunteer Visitors who keep in regular touch with a resident by personally visiting at least once per fortnight for approximately one hour. Depending on the mobility and health of each resident, the Visitor may be able to take the resident for a walk, a drive, to church, or to an Aboriginal cultural event, or may sit, chat or read and simply provide friendship.

## Who Can Be A Visitor?

- All Visitors are volunteers and must be aged over 18 years.
- Visitors can be people of any nationality.
- Because the visits involve contact with vulnerable clients, all Volunteers must obtain a Police Check and clearance. Aboriginal Elders & Community Care Services will pay for the costs of this check. Application forms can be obtained from the Coordinator.
- Visitors must be willing to undergo an orientation process and to attend any required training.
- All Visitors must sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Visitor and the organisation.
- Visitors must have transport or capacity to get to the facility or older person's home.
- Visitors must be prepared to commit to maintaining regular contact with the individual Elder, preferably over a 12 month period for one hour per fortnight.
- Visitors must live reasonably close to one of the designated facilities or in the area of the older person.

