

Title: Minister Launched Speak My Language Program in Canberra

The Minister For Ageing and Indigenous Health, the Honourable Ken Wyatt AM, MP launched the National 'Speak My Language' program at Parliament House in Canberra on August 22nd, 2018.



Aged Care Minister Ken Wyatt launched 'Speak My Language' program



Mr Ken Wyatt (middle), CCSSCI representative Henry Liu (left) and 'Speak My Language' National Program Manager Terrie Leoleos (right) at Parliament House in Canberra

The Speak My Language program is an initiative funded by the Commonwealth Government. It's coordinated by The Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW, Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria and their partners. The program is designed to give the opportunity to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) seniors to tell and listen to their stories in their own language using their trusted ethnic radio program.

Chinese Community Social Services Centre Inc. (CCSSCI) proudly leads the Mandarin and Cantonese program of 'Speak My Language' in Victoria. CCSSCI was awarded for being one of the first cohort facilitating the program.

In the Mandarin program, 6 aged care topics are discussed:

- My Aged Care
- Home Care Packages
- Assessment
- Commonwealth Home Support Programme
- Residential Care
- Wellness, Reablement and Restorative Care

Henry Liu, Team Leader of CCSSCI Home Care Packages Program interviewed Chinese seniors and their families, My Aged Care assessor, Access & Support Worker and Home Care Packages Case Manager in the Mandarin program. The full program could be listened at 'Speak My Language' website:

<https://www.speakmylanguageradio.com/mandarin-main-page>

Aged Care Minister Ken Wyatt said: “Speak My Language’ would play a vital role in keeping multicultural communities up to date by providing the latest aged care information in languages they understand and are comfortable with.’

The project will engage 160 bilingual aged care facilitators and ethnic radio programs across New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

The first broadcasts will be in Chinese, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Serbian, Macedonian, Hindi, Arabic and English, with this building to include up to 25 language groups.