

# Expression of Interest Template

## Leadership Course on Sexual Assault In Residential Aged Care

The past 12 months has seen the spotlight thrown on sexual assault in residential aged care. The Royal Commission into Quality and Safety in Aged Care received 588<sup>1</sup> submissions mentioning sexual assault and noted the estimated the number of alleged incidents in 2018-2019 to be as high as 50 per week.<sup>2</sup>

Additional focus on sexual assault has followed the launch of a Serious Incident Response Scheme (SIRS) in April 2020. The SIRS changes to the ways in which sexual assault is reported in residential aged care and provides new information on sexual assault<sup>3</sup>.

There is a need to build the capacity of residential aged care service providers to better respond to and prevent sexual assault. That's what the #ReadyToListen project sets out to achieve.

### **The #ReadyToListen project**

The #ReadyToListen project aims to build the skills and capacity of residential aged care service providers to better respond to and prevent sexual assault. The project delivers education and resources, including an aged care Leadership Course supporting service providers through the practical steps involved in creating change.

The #ReadyToListen project has been funded by the Department of Health and is being delivered by the [Older Person's Advocacy Network](#), in partnership with [Celebrate Ageing](#) and the [Older Women's Network, New South Wales](#). The Project Coordinator, [Dr Catherine Barrett](#), is the Director of Celebrate Ageing and long-term advocate for prevention of the sexual assault of the older person – in her work as a Nurse Unit Manager in residential aged care, a Senior Research Fellow at University and as the Director of a national campaign of respect for older people.

This document outlines an Expression of Interest template for residential aged care service providers who want to participate in the Leadership Course. Please note there are only 30 places in the Leadership Course.

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<sup>1</sup> See: <https://www.opalinstitute.org/uploads/1/5/3/9/15399992/20201022acrc-day98-final.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> See: <https://agedcare.royalcommission.gov.au/publications/final-report>

<sup>3</sup> See: <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/sites/default/files/media/sirs-unlawful-sexual-contact-or-inappropriate-sexual-conduct-fact-sheet.pdf>

## OVERVIEW OF THE LEADERSHIP COURSE

The Leadership Course is an opportunity for people working in or with, residential aged care services to develop and deliver education and resources to improve responses to and prevent sexual assault in residential aged care.

There are no fixed dates for the course. If you are interested in the Leadership Course you will be invited to work with Dr Catherine Barrett from July 2021 to June 2022 to undertake the following steps that are relevant to your service:

1. Identify the education or information needs of your service
2. Tailor a Leaders kit of education to the needs of your service
3. Develop any resources that may be useful to your service
4. Deliver (with assistance, if required) presentation-style education to some or all of:
  - a. your organisation
  - b. your national body
  - c. partner organisations
  - d. residential aged care services
5. Facilitate communication of the program within your organisation (with assistance)
6. Facilitate the inclusion of the education into your organisation's staff development strategy
7. Reassess staff education needs in your service

Catherine can take a lead role in drafting the education and resources you need. Catherine will also work with you to document your achievements for an edited report on the project. The report will help to guide other services like yours.

### Time commitment

We recommend that a minimum of 2-3 people from each service participate. Catherine can meet with you at times that suit your needs. We recommend setting aside an hour a week or ½ day a month for this project.

### Phone Support

The project co-ordinator will provide ad-hoc phone support as required.

**Executive support:** executive approval is required for participants to be accepted into the Course. This is expected to ensure participants are supported internally.

**Cost:** This course is free.

### Certificate

You will be presented with a leadership certificate at completion of the course.

**Requirements:** Leadership Course participants will be supported to deliver education and resources within their services – if you are not interested or able to achieve this requirement, please contact Catherine using details below.

**More information:** If you would like more information about the Course, please call Catherine on 0429 582 237.



## EOI TEMPLATE

Please complete the following information and return it to Catherine Barrett via email:  
[director@celebrateageing.com](mailto:director@celebrateageing.com)

1. Name and role of the Person/s applying

2. Name of the organisation/service

3. Reasons for wanting to participate

4. Executive support (names and roles)