



## Media Release

Tuesday, 26 February 2019

### **Aged Care System Navigator Trial aims to make it easier for older people to access aged care services**

The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, Minister for Aged Care launched the Aged Care System Navigator Trials (trial) in Perth on Monday, 25 February 2019. The trial will support older people to navigate aged care services. Led by COTA Australia, a consortium of 31 consumer-focused organisations, including Aged Rights Advocacy Service (ARAS), will deliver 62 trials across the country in a mix of regional, rural and metropolitan locations. ARAS will deliver the trial in Country SA North West until 30 June 2020.

Chief Executive of ARAS, Ms. Carolanne Barkla said “it is important that older people are able to receive individual tailored information and access appropriate services.”

Chief Executive of COTA Australia, Ian Yates said “the Aged Care Navigators Trial will help older Australians, their families and friends more easily access aged care services, whether it be through listening to an education session about aged care, receiving help with filling in a form, or talking face to face with someone about your individual needs.”

Chief Executive Officer of Older Persons Advocacy Network, Craig Gear, said the Aged Care System Navigator trials represent an “important opportunity for the consortium of organisations to work together in one of the largest national outreach programs in the history of aged care in Australia.”

The Aged Care Navigator Trials are funded until June 2020. The trials will be independently evaluated by Australian Healthcare Associates (AHA) to inform future policy considerations and guide the implementation of long-term models of support.

ARAS is the South Australian member of the Commonwealth funded Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN). ARAS is a founding member of Elder Abuse Action Australia (EAAA). ARAS has been supporting older people in South Australia to uphold their aged care and human rights for 29 years.

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