

Aged Care Diversity Framework

Resource Sheet 2 What is the Aged Care Diversity Framework?

Framework Objective

The overall objective of the Framework is that all older people experience a high quality aged care system that ensures equitable access and outcomes and embraces their diverse characteristics and life experiences.

Diversity Groups

The Framework recognises 12 diversity groups within the older population. Members of these groups experience both commonalities and different barriers in accessing the aged care system. The groups are not mutually exclusive as an older person may cross several groups (e.g. An older gay man from a CALD background who has mental health problems).

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people

People living in rural, remote or very remote areas

People with disability

People who are homeless or at risk of homelessness

People from culturally & linguistically diverse backgrounds

People who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex

People with mental health problems & mental illness

People living with cognitive impairment including dementia

Parents separated from their children by forced adoption or removal

Care leavers who grew up in orphanages, foster care.

Veterans

People experiencing social or economic disadvantage

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Overarching Imperatives

These are the key elements of the Framework. Collectively they should ensure an aged care system that is inclusive of older people with diverse needs.

- Equity of access and outcomes that takes into consideration individual situations
- Empowerment through information and knowledge
- Inclusion of people from diverse backgrounds and experiences in the development, implementation and evaluation of support programs
- Quality through respectful treatment and the ability to make informed choices about support and care
- Capacity-building where agencies and their workforces are skilled in providing diversity-sensitive support and care
- Responsive and accountable so that the aged care system is responsive, flexible and can demonstrate adaptability to the current and emerging needs and expectations of older people, their families, carers and representatives

For further information,
see **Sheet 17 Resources**
– **Resource No. 9**