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LASA welcomes funding for research centre of excellence

Leading Age Services Australia Limited (LASA) has welcomed new funding for the Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR) at the University of New South Wales in Sydney.

The Government yesterday announced it would provide \$27.2 million over seven years to support the ARC.

LASA Chief Executive Officer Sean Rooney welcomed the announcement, saying it was vital that governments, industry and the Australian public have the best research available to help face the challenges of an ageing population.

“More informed decision making can only benefit older Australians,” he said.

“We have to come up with new ways of meeting the challenges of an ageing population and having a better understanding of trends in demographics and how people make decisions will help policy makers, the industry and older Australians and their families make more informed choices.

“This research-based approach to decision making is critical to managing many of the issues we are facing in aged care such as workforce, funding and quality care.”

The announcement, by the Minister for Education Dan Tehan and the Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care Ken Wyatt, comes just a day after LASA wrapped up its National Congress in Adelaide, which discussed the challenges, innovations and best practices that will help Australian transition to a new era of age services in Australia.

“Within industry there is an appetite and willingness to improve age services now to support older Australians to age well. More research will give us the information we need to keep improving the quality, affordability and sustainability of age services in Australia.

“LASA congratulates Ministers Tehan and Wyatt on this forward thinking and much needed boost in support for older Australians,” Mr Rooney said.

About Leading Age Services Australia (LASA)

LASA is the national peak body representing and supporting providers of age services across residential care, home care and retirement living. Our purpose is to enable a high performing, respected, and sustainable age services industry delivering accessible, affordable, quality care and services for older Australians.

We represent providers of age services of all types and sizes located across Australia’s metropolitan, regional and rural areas. Consistent with the overall industry profile, 57% of

our Members are not-for-profit providers, 33% are for-profit providers and 10% are government providers.

Our diverse and representative membership gives LASA the ability to speak with credibility and authority on issues of importance to older Australians and the age services industry.

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