

COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME (CVS)

Co.As.It's Community Visitors Scheme is helping to establish links between people living in residential aged care facilities or in their own home to connect with young people in their local community. It is affectionately known as 'adopt a nonna or nonno'.

A community visitor is a volunteer who is matched with an older person in a residential aged care facility or living in their own home, and visits for one hour, once a fortnight. Visits can include:

- Reading or playing cards;
- Listening to music or visiting the garden;
- Chatting and reminiscing;
- Watching TV together or looking at photo albums;
- Speaking another language together.

The CVS is a national program funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health. The CVS aims to provide friendship and companionship to older people who are in a residential facility or living in their own home.



If you

- Would like to know more about the Community Visitors Scheme, or
- Would like to apply to become a community visitor,

Please contact:-

CO.AS.IT. COMMUNITY SERVICES LTD

BRISBANE

473 Lutwyche Rd, Lutwyche, QLD 4030
PO Box 59 Albion BC, QLD 4010

☎ 07 3624 6100
📠 07 3624 6185

GOLD COAST

34 Thomas Drive, Chevron Island, QLD 4217
PO Box 106 Chevron Island, QLD 4217

☎ 07 5617 9500
📠 07 5617 9557

✉ mail@coasit.asn.au

🌐 coasit.asn.au

ABN: 32 068 267 816 ACN: 627 389 931



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"Adopt a nonna or nonno"





The benefits of becoming a community visitor:-

Improve the quality of life of a resident living in an aged care facility or an older person living in their own home;

Improve social skills and empathy;

Personal reward from reducing isolation of an older person from the wider community.

WHAT DOES A COMMUNITY VISITOR DO?

A community visitor is a volunteer who is matched with an older person living in a residential aged care facility or living at home. The visits are made regularly for social support.

The Co.As.It. Community Visitors Scheme provides friendship and companionship to older people with a culturally and linguistically diverse background.

Every effort is made to match the older person with a visitor who shares the same language and cultural background. The volunteer visits are essentially for companionship and connection.

Most community visitors find that they enjoy the friendship as much as the older person they are matched with.

The relationship is positive and rewarding because it alleviates loneliness and isolation. Friendship can make a difference for both the visitor and the older person.

Having a visitor can help an older person in your community feel more valued and respected; it will increase their sense of well-being and strengthen their connection to the outside world.

Sharing your time and your interests will provide an older person with much needed contact and connection.

HOW TO BECOME A VISITOR?

- Fill in an application form and attend an interview.
- Flu and COVID vaccine required for visits in aged care facilities.
- Pass an Australian Police check.
- Attend an orientation session.
- Get matched to an older person either at home or in a residential facility and visit them regularly.
- Submit records of your visits.
- Spend time visiting and enrich the quality of life of an older person.

**Being a
volunteer has
many benefits.**

**Call us on
07 3624 6100 and
volunteer today!**

If you decide to become a community visitor, Co.As.It. will support and help you to adapt to your role by offering training, regular catch ups with other community visitors, and morning teas. Co.As.It. will support you to understand the needs of the older person you have been matched with.



Co.As.It. is a charitable organisation that has provided aged and community care services since 1978. It caters to the needs of CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) people and the general community.