

# AGED CARE FACT SHEET 1

## Employing family and friend carers in aged care



### ABOUT CARERS

#### Who are carers?

The *Cwth Carer Recognition Act 2010* defines a carer as **any individual who provides care, support or assistance to a family member or friend** due to ageing, disability, mental illness or chronic or terminal illness.

An individual is **not** a carer if they are a **paid care worker**, provide this care under a contract of service, or while undertaking **volunteer** work or student placement.

#### Carers and aged care

While not all carers want to work in the care sector, many do. It is likely that you already have carers working within your organisation.

Due to their caring role, many carers have developed skills and experience that make them well suited to a job in aged care.

The flexibility of aged care roles is also often well suited to carers who are balancing work and care.

### WHAT CARERS OFFER

#### Experience with providing care



Carers may have experience providing personal care, transport, and social support and have strong values of person-centred and inclusive care approaches.

#### Increased workforce diversity



Employing carers increases the diversity of your workplace, bringing new perspectives and better reflecting the people you support.

#### Untapped potential of employees



Around 1 in 9 Australians are carers, however carers are more often unemployed or underemployed than others.

### FIND OUT MORE

Find out how to attract and retain carers in your workplace in *Aged Care Fact Sheet 2: Attracting and retaining carers*.

Visit the Carers + Employers [website](#) for information about how to support carers in your workplace.

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