TRACS: Leadership in Aged Care Learning and Best Practice

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Teaching and Research Aged Care Services

- TRACS Program drivers –
  - need to treble aged care workforce by 2050
  - Need sufficiently skilled workforce to provide high quality care and meet the demands set by national reform

- Funding 16 aged care and education partnerships across the country that combine teaching, research, and formal care

- Distinct but linked by shared purpose of developing ‘learning organisations’ that support student clinical placements and workforce professional development
TRACS Rationale

- Clinical placement in a teaching hospital focused more on emergency needs and occurs over a relatively brief timeframe.
- Clinical placement in a teaching aged care service focused on complex and chronic care needs and students work with older people over longer periods of time.
- Clinical placement in a teaching aged care service provides more effective preparation for working with older people, an important outcome given population ageing.
Changing Perceptions

- TRACS has broader goal of building and legitimising aged care’s role in teaching and in research.

- Requires **significant shift in perception of role** because research is associated with universities, and health workforce training is associated with ‘Teaching Hospitals’.

- In reality, aged care providers are often involved in both roles, but typically receive neither resourcing nor recognition to do so.

- TRACS projects are showcasing the aged care sector’s research and workforce training roles, and capturing lessons about how to build these for the sector as a whole.
TRACS across Australia
Common Features of TRACS Projects

- Purpose built Infrastructure
- Well designed Clinical Placements
- Inter Professional Learning focus
- Building current aged care Workforce Capacity
- Providing Accessible learning opportunities
- Building Learning Organisations
- Building Research Capacity and an Evidence Base for Care
- Building Effective Partnerships and Collaboration
Adelaide Geriatrics Training and Research with Aged Care (G-TRAC) Centre

- **Lead:** The University of Adelaide
- **Partner:** Resthaven Inc

- **G-TRAC Centre**
- **Site:** Resthaven, Paradise
ViTA - The Interprofessional Learning Delivering Good Lives project

Combines teaching, research, aged care, health care and rehabilitation services in one location

- **Lead:** ACH Group
- **TRACS Partner:** Flinders University

TRACS part of larger **ViTA** infrastructure and development of an **Inter Professional Learning framework** for students on placement and embedding this model in ACH Group’s staff training, research and care
Preparing an Aged Care Workforce: Building the Model for Teaching and Research in Aged Care

**Lead:** Resthaven Inc

**Partners:**
- University of Adelaide
- TAFESA

- Workforce Capacity Building project
ReSeE (Resident Experience, Student Experience, Employability) - Promulgation of a Student Placement Model

**Lead:** University of SA

**Partners:**
- Helping Hand Aged Care
- TAFESA
- Mary Mackillop Care SA
- Eldercare Incorporated
- Clayton Church Homes
- Aged and Community Services SA/NT
Sumner House of Excellence

- **Lead**: Brotherhood of St Laurence
- **Partner**: Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT)

- Sumner House supports financially disadvantaged clients with complex need
- **Workforce Capacity Development** project focused on current and future workforce. Includes:
  - Analysis of needs and preferences of residents and families
  - Skills Audit of workforce with a focus on CDC capacity
  - Re-designed training and mentoring programs
  - Input into curriculum design at RMIT

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The Tri-focal Model of Care: Teaching and Research Aged Care Services

Lead: Deakin University (Centre for Innovation & Education in Aged Care)

Partners:
- Western Districts Health (2 sites)
- Cabrini Health (1 site)
- Southern Health (2 sites)

- Project extends roll-out of this model developed through earlier work by Deakin and aged care and health partners
- Model and its training program aligned with industry accreditation and ACFI
- Implemented via workplace Educators – Evidence Based Practice Leaders

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St John's & The Centre TRACS Community Partnership

Lead: St John’s Village, Wangaratta

Partners:

- The Centre for Continuing Education Inc.
- Jobs Services Australia (2 agencies)
- Working relationships with two local TAFE institutes
- Clinical placement relationships with University of Charles Sturt, La Trobe University and Monash University
- Working relationships with 4 local aged care providers

• **Supported Career Pathway** for St John’s staff to progress through qualifications from Certificate III in Aged Care to Bachelor of Nursing.

• Supports small number of employees to complete Certificate IV in Training and Assessment to foster a **workplace training program**

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CHART - Cooperative Healthy Ageing Research and Teaching Service

**Lead:** University of Canberra

**Partners:**
- Calvary Retirement Community, Canberra
- Illawarra Retirement Trust, Kangara Waters
- The Salvation Army Aged Care Plus, Goulburn
- Banksia Village, Broulee, NSW
- Canberra Institute of Technology
- Key2Learning (RTO specialising in aged care training)
- Healthcare Consumer Association
- Alzheimer's Australia NSW
- ACT Health Directorate – Rehabilitation, Aged and Community Care

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A Model for Psychologists Working in Residential Care

Lead: Southern NSW Local Health District Aged Care Evaluation Unit

Partners:
- Australian National University (ANU)
- Goodwin Aged Care Services Ltd (Ainslie, Farrer and Monash sites)

- Demonstrating place of clinical psychologists in aged care workforce
- Piloting one year clinical placements by senior clinical psychology students each supported by a qualified clinical psychologist
- Provides information training and support to Goodwin staff
- Provides training and information to residents and families via group seminars on issues such as, pain management and sleep
- Senior managers from Goodwin report that the project is bringing benefits for staff and residents and their families

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Real Cases, Real Time

**Lead:** Hammondcare, NSW

**Partners:**
- University of NSW
- Catholic Healthcare

- Clinical education program with two streams of 10 sessions each
- **Stream 1** for higher education trained workforce & **Stream 2** for VET trained workforce
- Live site at Hammondville site in SW Sydney, video-conferencing to reach all Hammondcare sites
RSL Research and Practice Development

- **Lead**: RSL LifeCare Ltd, NSW
- **Partner**: Australian Catholic University

- Existing partnership - in 2005, RSL LifeCare endowed Chair of Ageing at ACU, and a Research Fellow
- Significant number of **practice focused research** projects undertaken by partnership
- Students engaged in TRACS project **Perception of Aged Care** which includes a post placement survey about perceptions of aged care
- TRACS project includes **workforce development** program. Delivers training from its learning centre at RSL Narrabeen site with video-conferencing to all RSL sites
ITRACS - University of Wollongong and IRT

- **Lead**: University of Wollongong
- **Partner**: IRT (Illawarra Retirement Trust)

- **Research Coordinator** appointed in each partner organisation
- Builds on IRT’s **Research Foundation** (established 2009)  
- Project goal of building a **Learning Community** at IRT which builds on existing **IRT College** and is supported by:
  - Clinical placement and workforce development program
  - Intergenerational research and teaching programs that include students, staff, residents and their families (provided by UoW and IRT staff)
The Triple C Model: Enhancing Aged Care Education and Practice through Collaboration, Creativity and Capacity Building

- **Lead**: Griffith University
- **Partner**: RSL Care (2 sites)

- Established **CLAN** learning, research and evidence based care network
- Established **Centre for Excellence in Aged Care Education (EACE)** designed to identify and apply best practice care across the two RSL sites participating in TRACS

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ACCERT - Aged Care & Community Education Research Training

• **Lead:** University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba
• **Partner:** Anglicare Southern Queensland (Sites Hervey Bay, Bundaberg, Brisbane, Toowoomba)

• Initiated by Anglicare with goal of **building a learning culture** in their organisation
• Focus on **building research capacity** in aged care
• Building capacity in **translating research evidence into practice**

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Community of Interdisciplinary Practice for People with Dementia

**Lead:** Queensland University of Technology

**Partners:**
- Masonic Care Qld (Cairns, Townsville)
- Churches of Christ Care (Brisbane sites)
- James Cook University

- Designed to upskill graduate health professionals in dementia care, including management of behavioural and psychological symptoms
- Provides professional education modules with 40 hour practicum at partner aged care sites

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Wicking Teaching Aged Care Facility (TACF)

**Lead:** University of Tasmania

**Partners:**
- Southern Cross Care Inc (Rosary Gardens, Newtown, Tasmania)
- Mount St Vincent Nursing Home & Therapy Centre (Ulverstone, Tasmania)
- Australian Catholic University (Melbourne)
- Catholic Homes (Hawthorn, Victoria)
- Curtin University (Perth)
- Uniting Church Homes (Rowethorpe)
- AP Leadership Group
More information …

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Evaluation Website - www.adelaide.edu.au/wiser/tracs