

Australia invests \$2.5M to ensure COVID-19 support for elders

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The support line will be extended until 30 June 2021



The Australian government is ensuring senior Australians get the services and assistance they need with a \$2.5 million investment to extend and expand the Older Persons COVID-19 Support Line.

Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians, Richard Colbeck, said the support line will be extended until 30 June 2021.

“The Government will invest up to \$2.5 million so senior Australians can continue to access information about the COVID-19 pandemic and get the support they need,” Minister Colbeck said.

“Many vulnerable senior Australians may not have easy access to the internet or be able to readily access information about COVID-19.

“The support line has proved to be a very beneficial service for senior Australians who continue to face particular risks because of COVID-19, including social isolation and loneliness.

The support service is a joint initiative of COTA Australia, Dementia Australia, National Seniors Australia and the Older Persons Advocacy Network. The expansion of the service will also include support from the Partners in Culturally Appropriate Care (PICAC) Alliance.

“We identified the need early on in the COVID-19 pandemic to provide targeted support for vulnerable senior Australians who are at greater risk of isolation, carer stress and elder abuse,” Minister Colbeck said.