

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-549

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: YOUNG PEOPLE IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Siewert asked:

In 2009 the AIHW reported that the under 50 group (the target group of the YPIRAC initiative) comprised only 10 per cent of the total group of residents under 65 in residential aged care. What role has the Department played in the YPIRAC initiative and how does the residential aged care program meet the needs of those people who found themselves outside the YPIRAC target group?

Answer:

The Department has assisted the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs including through the provision of data on the number of people by age group accessing residential aged care services.

While for the majority of younger people with disability, it is more appropriate for them to be supported through specialist disability services than through aged care services, younger people with disability are eligible for services provided under the *Aged Care Act 1997* if they are approved for those services by an Aged Care Assessment Team and where there are no other more appropriate care facilities or services able to meet the person's needs.

Further, younger people in residential aged care not supported through the YPIRAC initiative benefit from initiatives in place as part of the residential aged care program to ensure the care needs of all residents are met including quality and accreditation arrangements.

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