



Level 1  
25 Napier Close  
Deakin ACT 2600  
PO Box 335  
Curtin ACT 2605

T: 02-6285 2615  
F: 02-6281 5277

office@agedcareassociation.com.au  
www.agedcareassociation.com.au

ACN 053 998 860  
ABN 81 053 998 860

## MEDIA RELEASE

### AGED CARE PERFORMS MIRACLES – WHERE ARE THE REWARDS?

'Aged Care Association Australia (ACAA) today welcomed the release by the Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW) report on Residential Aged Care 2007-2008 which shows that the average length of stay for persons in residential care has increased to 148 weeks, whilst the acuity level of residents has continued to increase with three quarters of residents now classified as high care,' said ACAA CEO Rod Young

'The concerning part of the report is that the Government's target number of places is now three years ahead of the target date of 2011; which has aged care providers carrying the cost of bringing places on line early causing high levels of vacancies in various parts of the country,' said Rod Young.

'Unless Government is prepared to make the capital income stream available to the industry more viable then this achievement will soon be lost as providers cannot spend \$20M on a new 100 place facility to see many of those places sit idle for two to three years while servicing the very high capital costs involved,' Mr Young, said.

'The Government has a public policy objective of ensuring consumers have choice when selecting a facility, however, this public policy objective has a cost and that cost is being borne in total by aged care providers. Government must recognize that it can cost an aged care provider as much as \$17,000.00 per place per year to have that place sit idle. This cannot be sustained in the current economic climate. If Government wants aged care providers to continue to meet future growth then the capital capacity of the industry must be repaired,' said Rod Young.

For further contact:  
Rod Young  
ACAA CEO  
Mobile 0419 624178

19 June 2009

#### State Offices

**NSW**  
PO Box 7  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012  
T: 02-9212 6922  
F: 02-9212 3488  
E: admin@anhcansw.com.au  
W: www.anhcansw.com.au

**QLD**  
PO Box 995  
Indooroopilly QLD 4068  
T: 07-3725 5555  
F: 07-3715 8166  
E: acqj@acqj.org.au  
W: www.acqj.org.au

**SA**  
Unit 5, 259 Glen Osmond Road  
Frewville SA 5063  
T: 08-8338 6500  
F: 08-8338 6511  
E: executive@anhcassa.com.au  
W: anhcassa.com.au

**TAS**  
PO Box 198  
Kings Meadow TAS 7249  
T: 03-6343 6840  
F: 03-6343 6802  
E: rarcher@parkgroup.com.au

**VIC**  
2/1949 Malvern Road  
Malvern East VIC 3145  
T: 03-9885 0388  
F: 03-9885 0347  
E: agedcare@agedcarevic.com.au  
W: www.agedcarevic.com.au

**WA**  
Suite 6, 11 Richardson Street  
South Perth WA 6151  
T: 08-9474 9200  
F: 08-9474 9300  
E: anhecaws@inet.net.au