



Getting started

- ◆ Send in an Application Form,
- ◆ Attend an interview with the Coordinator where introductory information is provided & additional forms are explained,
- ◆ Attend an Orientation workshop,
- ◆ Complete a National Criminal Records check (Police Check)

We are here to assist you to understand and complete these forms, which help to ensure our duty of care to you and our Clients.

Meeting your match

We will accompany you to meet the Client for the first time and familiarise yourself with the surroundings (in the aged care facility or the Clients home).

You can decide whether you would like to continue to visit with this Resident at least once a fortnight.

When you are ready to commence visiting on a regular basis, you will need to sign a *Memorandum of Understanding* which outlines your role as a Community Visitor.

Training, Support and Resources

Training will be provided on issues related to aging, cultural and linguistic diversity as well as staying safe and healthy, ideas for visits, providing feedback, and other helpful resources.

The CVS coordinator is available to help you with any concerns and will contact you regularly to make sure you are happy with the arrangement.

As a volunteer you are eligible for a range of community service courses offered by Learning and Development Training Organisations. Speak to your Coordinator about areas of interest or opportunities to gain further skills and experience.

Sydney MCS welcomes volunteers to participate in this program.

If you are bilingual and interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact the CVS Coordinator on 9663 3922, or cvs@sydneymcs.org.au

DO YOU SPEAK A SECOND LANGUAGE?

Gain skills and experience by volunteering as a Community Visitor.

Provide social support to an elderly person from a multicultural background in their home or aged care facility.

Full training and support provided.

ONE OR TWO HOURS A FORTNIGHT OF YOUR TIME MAKES A DIFFERENCE!



COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME

9663 3922

3 General Bridges Crescent,
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**sydney
mcs**
sydney multicultural
community services

Community Visiting

Sydney Multicultural Community Services (Sydney MCS) is an auspice of the Australian Government Community Visitors Scheme (CVS).

Sydney MCS is a non-profit organisation that responds to the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups. Services and assistance such as home care, social support, English classes, legal and financial counselling are available to the aged, migrants, refugees and humanitarian entrants, regardless of sex, religion, political affiliation or ethnic background.

About the Community Visitors Scheme (CVS)

Sydney MSC receives government funding to provide a Community Visiting service to CALD residents, who may be isolated by limited family contact, language and cultural barriers.

Sydney MCS CVS recruits, trains and supports volunteers to visit with an eligible resident either in an aged care facility or at home. The volunteer Visitor is matched with an elderly Client according to language and cultural backgrounds and possibly other interests.

Visits take place at least once a fortnight for an hour or two. Activities may include conversation, games, watching TV, listening to music, reading, reminiscing or other activities depending on the capacity of the resident.

Community Visitors will be provided with basic training and support, complete a Police Check and adhere to guidelines around health and safety, conduct, confidentiality, rights and responsibilities.

A Community Visitor does not include nursing, personal or homecare, and will not interfere with other existing relationships, financial or personal matters.

Support. Casework. Aged Care. Health Care Activities. Facilities. Language Services

Why volunteer?

Community Visiting addresses the social and emotional needs of older people alongside other service providers who attend to their physical and practical needs, with the aim of enhancing quality of life and well-being.

People volunteer for many reasons. Some use volunteering as a way to gain new skills or experience. A Community Visitor with SMCS will gain an understanding of non-profit organisations servicing vulnerable and marginal groups, elderly issues, Australian volunteering standards and simple reporting. They may also have opportunities for additional training. Community Visitors are valued members of the SMCS team.

Volunteering with SMCS also provides an opportunity to meet new people, make personal or professional contacts, use your community language and practice English skills.

Simply making a positive contribution to your community provides a sense of purpose and connection.