

Seniors' Conference 2011: Agents of Change

Session Title:	Poverty of Older women
Convenor:	Jennifer Cloke
Participants:	Mel, Pauline, Marjory, Maree, Susan, Nancy, John, Tracy, Thuyen, Christine



COTA

Women and Poverty Group 12

government service here!!
 can you help?
 it's not easy to find which one to ring when you are stressed.

cycle of domestic violence -> people - women - children - husbands - love & support

building Self confidence is complex.

people need access to resources

So valuable to the whole community

open up the Cage - can you leave?

what about support if we loose our independence suddenly like a car accident?

help with mentoring - support - There are wonderful resources that we may not even know is there...

INFO how can we help here? help here? is it here? when its all online, and I can't access it what use are these resources?

The Value of women in house holds is high - if the house hold dissolves and there are no assets to share they are left without.

Women in 70's 80's worked as caregivers volunteers as parents. are financially disadvantaged. in the present community climate to assist with financial awareness

we need - groups - if you run out of food what do you do? basics like a bag of oranges

late 50's gap no cash flow - no car (saving) service - full time volunteers need a travel allowance

surviving - need a travel allowance recognition, please!!

When we live more simply caring for others

which is more sustaining... chips ? oranges

extra opportunity COTA this group & groups like them give an opportunity to listen & participate by enhancing their English - comment by a participant

please support this

Cate Foley Burke 29-9-11



Summary of Discussions:

1. What needs to happen?
 - a. Has been a silent social issue
 - b. Brought scorn and judgement
 - c. Older women (70s, 80s) leaving often with no assets or no super etc

What will we do now? What needs to happen next?

1.
 - a. Better Education → empowerment
 - b. Flying Solo – skills
 - c. toward Employment
2. Funding: Federal, State, Local: local councils accountable, proof documents, \$\$\$ could be set up or \$\$\$ could be to continue good existing programs etc
3. Advocacy
4. One stop shop: local guides: booklet and local govt specialists (building connections) , maybe at shopping centres
5. Money to Move: even if you pay back
6. Housing: more public housing: Abbeyfield, Safe Housing
7. Volunteering: change in how that looks now especially full-time
 - a. Volunteer credits or points
 - b. Acknowledgement
 - c. Travel allowance (card) there is a gap between YNN ?? and Seniors when it comes to concessions
8. Getting the Message across
9. Sharing of success and failures across council and groups
10. Cultural shifts