



2024-26 PRIORITIES

FOR PALLIATIVE CARE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

S U M M A R Y

DOWNLOAD THE FULL REPORT:

palliativecaresa.org.au/priorities-for-palliative-care-in-sa



Palliative Care
South Australia

PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF PALLIATIVE CARE

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PCSA agrees with the SA government's Palliative Care Strategic Framework 2022-2027 vision: "All South Australians, their families and carers [should] have access to and receive the best possible end of life and palliative care that places the person at the centre of care and supports them to live and die well in accordance with their individual needs, wishes, values and preferences." ¹

Why is there a growing need for palliative care in SA?

- ♥ **South Australia has one of the longest life expectancies in the world²**
Increased longevity of South Australians contributes not only to a higher number of older people in the population, but also a change in the nature of diseases together with the time and the way that people die
- ♥ **Society as a whole is still reluctant to discuss dying which is impacting outcomes**
People with high levels of death literacy have context specific knowledge about the death system and the ability to put that knowledge into practice³
- ♥ **South Australia's population is metropolitan centric⁴**
People living in rural and remote areas have reduced access to specialist care

How does palliative care impact South Australians?

Approximately



South Australians a year could directly benefit from palliative care services

75% of deaths in South Australia would benefit from palliative care^{5,6}

Approximately



South Australians a year are directly affected by someone close to them dying from a life-limiting illness

On average 9 people are directly affected by someone's death⁷

100%



of South Australians will be impacted by death and dying

PCSA agrees with KPMG:

"There is a clear economic case for increased investment in palliative care in Australia" ⁸

What can we do?

- ♥ Invest to save⁸
- ♥ Utilise the Priorities for Palliative Care in SA 2024-2026

2024-26 PRIORITIES FOR PALLIATIVE CARE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- 1 FUNDING** 
- 2 WORKFORCE** 
- 3 ACCESS** 
- 4 PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACHES TO PALLIATIVE CARE** 
- 5 INFORMATION AND RESEARCH** 

In addition to The Priorities, Hot Topics are specific focus areas for palliative care. Focus Areas for each of these Hot Topics are identified below.

- Palliative Care in Aged Care (Residential and Home Care)
- Palliative Care for people living in country SA
- Palliative Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People
- Palliative Care for people experiencing homelessness
- Palliative Care for people from Cultural and Linguistic Diverse backgrounds
- Palliative Care for people under 65

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“The huge costs associated with death are not inevitable... Investment into palliative care can deliver lower end-of-life costs to Government at the same time as achieving positive health and social outcomes for people experiencing life-limiting conditions.”

– KPMG, 2020⁸

CALL TO ACTION: DISSEMINATING AND ACTIVATING THE 2024-26 PRIORITIES

The Priorities for Palliative Care in South Australia 2024-26 were created by the sector, for the sector. These priorities were developed following a robust process of consultation. They provide direction for the sector that supports much needed transformation of South Australia’s palliative care system.

To become involved in promoting the priorities, please consider the following possibilities for action:



Individual Actions

- Engage your personal networks, local community and community groups
- Talk to your local Member of Parliament (MP) and local Council



Organisational Actions

- Include the priorities in your organisational strategic, operational and improvement plans
- Create working groups to enact the priorities



Government Actions

- Make the case for palliative care system improvements in the legislature and in committee work
- Use the priorities to guide government actions, election commitments and policies



Share your actions/improvements with your networks, on social media and/or with Palliative Care South Australia.



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Learn more here: www.palliativecaresa.org.au/priorities-for-palliative-care-in-sa