



NEWS RELEASE

Sharon Bird MP
Federal Member for Cunningham

\$120,000 funding for Wollongong aged care

The Italian Social Welfare Organisation and Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council will share in \$120,000 funding under the Commonwealth's 2008-09 *Community Partners Programme*, Federal Member for Cunningham, Sharon Bird announced today.

Ms Bird said the Italian Social Welfare Organisation would receive \$69,000 which promotes awareness of, and facilitate access to aged care services to the Italian community in the Illawarra region.

The Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council will receive \$51,000 for service assistance to the Ukrainian community, she said.

The two Wollongong organisations are part of 70 other projects to be funded under the *Community Partners Programme* this financial year.

“Older people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities are not accessing aged care services as much as Australia’s general ageing population.

“I am delighted that the Italian Social Welfare Centre and Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council are to receive this funding assistance from the Commonwealth to assist older people in the Italian and Ukrainian community in the region”, Ms Bird said.

The *Community Partners Programme* puts cultural and linguistic diverse communities in touch with aged care providers, helping providers to offer cultural aged care services.

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