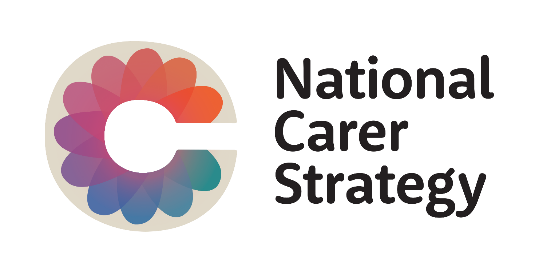
National Carer Strategy

2024 to 2034

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| Australian Government logo | The Australian Government wrote this.  When you see the word **we** it means the Australian Government. |
| A person holding a white book with easy read on the cover | We wrote this in an easy to read way.  We use pictures to explain some ideas. |
| The word bold is in bold and the words not bold are in plain text | We have some words in **bold**.  This means the letters are thicker and darker.  These are important words. |
| An easy read document with pictures and lines for text. | This is an Easy Read summary of another document.  This means it has the most important ideas. |
| Laptop screen displaying a welcome message with a group of smiling people. | You can look at it on our website.  [www.dss.gov.au/supporting-carers/national-carer-strategy](https://www.dss.gov.au/supporting-carers/national-carer-strategy) |
| Two people with their arms around each other with thumbs up. | You can ask for help to read this document.  You can ask   * A friend * Family members * A support person. |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags | We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the **Traditional Owners** of the land we live on. |
| Map of Australia | They were the **first people** to live on and use the   * Land * Waters. |

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What is the National Carer Strategy

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| A book with a picture of a group of people looking at a white board | The Australian Government is working on a plan about **carers**.  A carer is someone who helps look after someone without being paid. |
| A group of people posing for a photo | A carer could be a   * Family member * Friend. |
| National Carer Strategy logo | The plan is called the **National Carer Strategy**.  We call it **the Strategy** for short. |
| Two men holding signs with thumbs up and thumbs down gestures. | Lots of people will work on the Strategy together to make things better for carers. |
| Smiling young man in a colourful plaid shirt with a white background. | The government made this plan to help carers be   * Happy |
| Two people forming a heart shape with their arms while holding hands and smiling. | * Healthy * Have good lives |
| Man in plaid shirt pointing upward with thought clouds and the word 'Goals'. | * Reach their **goals**.   Goals are things you want to do. |
| Three people posing together with smiles, one sitting and two standing. | * Have everything they need to be good carers. |
| Woman in green shirt giving thumbs-up next to a checklist with green check marks. The list says vision, principles, objectives, priority outcome areas, next steps. | The Strategy is in 5 parts.  This makes it easier to work on. |
| Smiling elderly woman in purple with a light bulb illustration. | Part 1   * **Vision**   A vision is the big goal that we want to make happen. |
| A person holding a piece of paper with their thumb up | Part 2   * **Principles**   Principles are **rules** that we think are important for the Strategy to help carers. |
| A man in a blue blazer flexing in front of an archery target. | Part 3   * **Objectives**   Objectives are things that we **want to happen**. |
| Two people standing next to a presentation easel with a checklist. | Part 4   * **Priority outcome areas**   Priority outcome areas are the things that are most important to make better. |
| Man holding a sign showing 'Now' and 'Next' with images. | Part 5   * **Next steps**   This is   * What we will do next * How we check the plan is working. |
| A book with a picture of a group of people looking at a white board | The government will make an **action plan**.  The Action plan is a plan that tells people all the things the government need to do. |
| A diverse group of six people pointing at something on a table. | We want to work with carers to   * Decide on more actions * Write an **Outcomes framework**. |
| Two colleagues discussing a document in a professional setting. | The Outcomes Framework is our way to **check** that we are doing what we said.  It tells us to **write reports** about what we have done.  It will also help us decide on **more actions** in the future. |

What we know about carers

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| A diverse group of people smiling, including one person in a wheelchair with a service dog. | Lots of people are carers in Australia. |
| Three smiling individuals in white t-shirts giving thumbs-up gestures. | We **need to know** more about carers to help them in the right way. |
| Man with glasses holding a magnifying glass. | There has been **research** about carers.  Research means   * Finding out what people think about things * Using the information to **help others**. |
| Three smiling healthcare professionals holding a sign with an information symbol. | Research tells us we need more information about |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fags | * Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carers |
| A group of white speech bubbles with black text with different languages | * Carers who speak languages other than English |
| Person wearing a PRIDE T-shirt with a rainbow heart giving thumbs up. | * LGBTQIA+ carers. |
| Two men in conversation, one pointing and the other listening thoughtfully. | Not everyone knows they are a carer.  Not all carers want people to know they care for someone. |
| Smiling woman with a headset and a signpost graphic in a speech bubble labeled 'SUPPORT', 'HELP', and 'ADVICE'. | This means they might **not** know what help they can get. |

Why are carers important

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| --- | --- |
| Two women smiling, one standing and pushing the other in a wheelchair. | We know carers are important. |
| Person in a gray suit reading a newspaper with the headline 'Jobs Available.' | Carers have lots of good skills.  This could help them get a job. |
| Four people, including an elderly woman and a person in a wheelchair, seated in a room shaped like a house. | Carers do lots of work that keep people out of   * Hospitals * Aged care. |
| Two men standing side by side, one giving thumbs up, the other smiling, with an arrow between them. | We will need more carers as people get older. |
| A diverse group of people engaged in various workplace activities within a house-shaped frame labeled 'Workplace'. | Carers sometimes **give up** things for themselves to help the person they care for.  Like   * Having a job |
| Three people reading yellow books, one in a wheelchair.  Collage of people engaged in various activities including painting, basketball, gardening, and bowling. | * Going to school or training * Going out to do fun things |
| fanned out money | * Giving up things that provides them money. |
| Man in 'Healthy' shirt with arms raised, surrounded by healthy foods. | This might make it hard for carers to have a happy and healthy   * Body * Mind. |

Vision

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| Two men interacting, one standing and one seated in a wheelchair.  Two women smiling, one standing and holding the hand of the other seated in a wheelchair.  Three people standing in front of a house and a church, one in a wheelchair, under a tree. | We wrote a vision.  We want everyone to know carers are   * Important * Need respect * Need good support * Can take part in the community. |
| Person with short hair giving two thumbs up in a blue plaid shirt. | This will mean they can balance their lives with their caring role. |

Principles

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| --- | --- |
| Woman writing in a notebook and smiling. | Our principles will help us reach our vision.  There are 5 principles. |
| Two people, one in a wheelchair and the other standing, with a supportive arm around the shoulder. | 1  We will listen to what carers have to say.  Carers will help us come up with actions to help them. |
| Man with glasses holding a magnifying glass. | 2  Research will help us look at the **hard parts** of being a carer. |
| A book with a picture of a group of people looking at a white board | 3  We know all carers are not the same.  Actions will help carers in different ways. |
| A smiling man pointing at the camera in front of a background with colourful squares and question marks. | 4  We will help carers have more choices. |
| An elderly woman in a pink sweater and a young man in a navy blue suit shaking hands and smiling. | 5  We will be open and honest. |

Objectives

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| A woman with short reddish-brown hair, glasses, and a white floral top giving a thumbs-up. | Our objectives will help us do what we want to do. |
| Two women smiling, one seated in a wheelchair and the other kneeling beside her. | We want everyone to know carers are important. |
| A group of people posing for a photo | We want carers to have the lives they want. |
| A group of six people standing together, smiling and interacting. | We want carers to be   * Happy * Healthy * Safe. |

## Priority outcome areas

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| Two people standing next to a presentation easel with a checklist. | These are the areas we want to work on.  They will help us do our vision. |
| Three people giving thumbs-up, wearing professional attire and ID badges. | We want everyone to see and respect the good work carers do.  Like the   * Government * Community * Other paid helpers like doctors. |
| A professional woman writing at her desk in an office, with a computer and stethoscope nearby. | When doctors understand that carers know a lot about a persons   * Needs * Health * Things they like * Things they do not like   This helps doctors do a good job. |
| Man with glasses holding a magnifying glass. | We want to keep doing research about carers.  This will help us know what will help. |
| A person in a black vest and red shirt posing with arms raised in a triumphant gesture. | We want people to know if they are carers. |
| Woman standing with six smaller images of different people and settings surrounding her, connected by lines. | This will help them get the right help they need.  Like   * Services * Programs * Support. |
| Two people sitting at a table, one writing and the other pointing at the paper. | We want carers to learn what will help them keep being good carers. |
| Two men shaking hands, one in a red sweater and the other in a green and grey polo shirt, with a white background. | We want carers to be able to have   * A job * Learn new things.   This will help them have more money. |
| A group of six people standing together, smiling and interacting. | We want carers to be   * Safe * Happy * Healthy. |

## Next steps

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| --- | --- |
| A book with a picture of a group of people looking at a white board  green calendar top with 2024 next to green calendar top with 2027 and and arrow pointing from 2024 to 2027 | We have a lot to do.  We have made an action plan.  This will help us work on our   * Vision * Priority outcome areas.   In the first 3 years we will |
| Person in a red beanie writing on a piece of paper at a table. | * Write the outcomes framework |
| Two people smiling and standing next to a flip chart with numbers. | * Deliver the action plan. |
| A diverse group of people interacting with speech bubbles overhead. | * Keep working with carers. |
| Two men holding signs with thumbs up and thumbs down gestures. | We might think of new ideas in the future to help carers.  We want to keep making things better. |
| Cover of a spiral-bound report with the title 'Report' and an image of a person holding a paper that reads 'easy read.' | We will write reports to check how we are going. |
| Calendar with a clock showing 3:00 . | We will write them in   * 2030 to 2031 * 2035 to 2037. |
| Person holding an open booklet titled 'Report' with images and text inside. | Everyone will be able to read our reports. |
| Laptop screen displaying a welcome message with a group of smiling people. | If you want to read more you can go to our website.  [www.dss.gov.au/supporting-carers/national-carer-strategy](https://www.dss.gov.au/supporting-carers/national-carer-strategy) |
| Laptop screen displaying an envelope with the word 'e-mail' on a blue background. | You can send us an email.  [nationalcarerstrategy@dss.gov.au](mailto:nationalcarerstrategy@dss.gov.au) |



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