

What is flexible respite?

Respite is a short-term substitute for the usual care a person receives and can be provided in a planned or unplanned way. Respite can be provided within the home, a residential facility, or through day programs.

Respite offers: a break from the caring role, opportunities to rediscover or maintain current interests/hobbies and gives the person being cared for an opportunity to experience alternate carers.

Are you caring for someone with younger onset dementia?

Younger onset dementia is a diagnosis of any form of dementia prior to 65 years of age and can present many issues for carers such as:

- changes in employment
- changes in relationships
- grief and loss issues
- accessing relevant information / supports
- financial/legal issues

Villa Maria can assist through:

- carer support and advocacy
- access to appropriate services
- organising/planning respite options
- linking into long term supports, eg, Alzheimer's Australia Vic
- future planning

About Villa Maria

Villa Maria is a values-based organisation providing quality services and life enhancing opportunities for older people and people with a disability.

From humble beginnings as the Catholic Braille Writers Association in 1907, Villa Maria has grown to become one of Victoria's largest providers of disability, education and senior services, with more than 60 programs supporting 5,000 people across the state.

Further information

Access to the Carer Support Program in the Eastern Region is via the Villa Maria Access and Information Service on:

T: 1300 650 615

Villa Maria's Access and Information staff will talk with you and refer you to a case manager. The case manager will contact you to discuss your caring support needs, make a time to visit you at home and develop a plan of care with you.

Villa Maria Eastern Community Services
Level 1, Building 5, 540 Springvale Road
Glen Waverley Vic 3150

T: 1300 650 615

F: 1300 139 884

E: accesseast@villamaria.com.au

For callers outside the Eastern Region

T: (03) 9538 4300

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www.villamaria.com.au

Carer Support Program



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What is the Carer Support Program?

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A carer is someone who provides unpaid help and support to a partner, relative or friend who is unable to manage without their help.

Villa Maria's Carer Support Program assists carers by providing them with a range of flexible respite and support options.

The program receives short-term funding from the Department of Human Services to assist carers whilst linking them into ongoing support services.

Who is eligible?

Carers who live in the Eastern Region and care for a person who:

- is over 65 years, or has an ageing-related condition
- is living with dementia
- is an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander over 45 years, or has an ageing-related condition
- has an acquired brain injury
- has mental health issues

How will Villa Maria assist you?

Villa Maria can assist by providing a variety of services, including the following:

- short-term case management
- flexible respite options
- social support
- education and allied health support
- home care services including meal preparation and personal care
- providing information and access to long term support services

In addition to these service options, you will have access to a comprehensive range of agencies and service providers to meet your specific needs.

Villa Maria Eastern Community Services is available to carers who reside in the municipalities of Knox, Shire of Yarra Ranges, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse and Boroondara.