



KythCare is a Registered Charity and it is also registered Charitable Fundraising Authority.

**The primary focus for KythCare is to provide services which:**

- Promote and support independence for our seniors
- Are person centred - i.e. each person is unique and different and will have different needs
- Encourage participation in community life
- Respect one's right to privacy, confidentiality and choice
- Assist the sick, the isolated or the immobile
- Offer advocacy or a 'voice' if needed; and
- Are sensitive to family and cultural needs

To provide many of the services requires considerable funds and resources.

KythCare is still very much in its infancy and the challenge for us is to build up resources so that we can provide services into the future, whilst at the same time doing what we can now. To date, we have just over \$250,000 from fundraising and donations received. At the same time, our expenditure has been minimal – most being credit card fees, credit card machine rental charges, and minor website costs.

As we know, the Government is listening to the wishes of the community who want to remain in their home as long as possible. As a result, the funding models are changing and the Government is promoting home care services rather than the establishment of new aged care facilities.

**Cost of Care:**

- The cost to establish an aged care facility is in excess of \$50 million.
- The cost for 24 hour home care is approximately around \$10,000 per week - about \$500,000 plus per year. This is just not affordable for most Australians.
- Residential care is much cheaper, but it is not what most people want.
- Home Care Packages are very much in demand and provide between \$15K-\$50K per year, to assist with help in the home. These packages are very difficult to access with long wait list.

To this end, KythCare is working hard to ensure that we provide seniors and their families with practical support to assist in a variety of ways. Some of the initiatives already considered, but have not been possible to implement, include the option of installing a stair-lift at Kythera House to assist our less mobile community members to have easier access and enjoy its resources. However, upon further investigation we discovered that the stairway is not wide enough for the fitting of a stair-lift.

**We are currently working on:**

1. Information Sessions – following the format of our previous successful session. The theme of the next session will be about staying active and planning for the future
2. Providing a financial subsidy towards the obtaining of professional advice for planning and support for aged care decisions
3. Aged care navigation support
4. Screening of Greek movies, to encourage interaction amongst the aged
5. Morning and Afternoon tea events to promote healthy ageing
6. Lunch to honour senior Kytherians
7. Website links to help in accessing information regarding aged care and healthy ageing
8. Linking our youth with seniors via technology classes
9. Telephone connection and support services

The KythCare board recognise and are very concerned that the current COVID-19 crisis poses a huge risk, particularly to the most vulnerable in our community. The situation means that some of the programs and initiatives we had planned or were planning could not be undertaken at this time, as we cannot reach out directly to our older community, and we are clearly not sure when these can recommence. We trust this will be sooner than later.

**For KythCare to progress with these initiatives to assist our community  
and to continue to grow, we require your ongoing support.**