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## New cancer support initiatives for people most in need

Cancer Australia announced today that four organisations have been awarded funding to improve the coordination, accessibility and development of quality cancer support initiatives for people with poorer cancer outcomes.

The funding was awarded in round eight of Cancer Australia's Supporting People with Cancer Grant initiative, a program designed to better support people affected by cancer, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, regional and rural communities and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Professor Helen Zorbas, CEO of Cancer Australia, said, "The Supporting People with Cancer Grant initiative provides grants to community organisations, encouraging effective partnerships to develop innovative approaches to better support people affected by cancer."

In round eight of the Grant initiative, \$480,472 was awarded to four organisations, which together with co-contributions by the grant recipients has created a total funding pool of more than \$900,000.

The four organisations that received grant funding are:

• **Brain Tumour Alliance Australia** will create information resources to help brain tumour patients improve the health and quality of life outcomes for people from culturally linguistically and diverse communities, including Arabic, Greek, Chinese, Vietnamese and Easy English.

• Lung Foundation Australia will develop and deliver a series of webinars to improve health literacy and assist lung cancer patients to more effectively self-manage their condition and help people in geographically and socially isolated communities to connect to the services they need.

• **Menzies School of Health Research** will develop and implement a framework to address the supportive care needs of Indigenous people with cancer and translate this into an online resource and health professional training program.

• **Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre** will create culturally appropriate resources that meet the unmet information needs of cancer survivors from disadvantaged groups, including culturally linguistically and diverse communities and those with limited literacy.

Since 2005, the Australian Government, through Cancer Australia, has provided \$7.37 million towards 98 community grants nation-wide.

More information can be found on Cancer Australia's website: <u>Supporting People with</u> <u>Cancer Grant initiative</u>.

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## About Cancer Australia

Cancer Australia is a specialist agency providing leadership in cancer control across all cancers and across the continuum of care. Cancer Australia builds the evidence base, analyses, interprets and translates the latest scientific cancer research and data to inform policy and practice, and to provide information and expert advice on cancer control to governments, health professionals and the community.

Cancer Australia works in collaboration with consumers, health professionals, cancer organisations, researchers and governments, to improve outcomes for all people affected by cancer, and particularly for those people whose survival rates or cancer experiences are poorer. This includes Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders, people living in rural and remote Australia, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people who are socioeconomically disadvantaged.