

# Media Release

**The Hon Jenny Mikakos MLC**  
Minister for Families and Children  
Minister for Early Childhood Education  
Minister for Youth Affairs

Victorian  
Labor

**DELIVERING  
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Wednesday, 24 October 2018

## CARE AND COMFORT FOR OLDER GREEK VICTORIANS

Families in our state's Greek communities will have peace of mind that their elderly loved ones are getting the care they need, under a re-elected Andrews Labor Government.

Member for Northern Metropolitan and Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos has today announced that only a re-elected Labor Government will invest \$1.5 million to Fronditha Care towards extending their facility in Thornbury, allowing for an extra 60 new residents.

Fronditha plans to add two floors and include a theatrette, communal dining facilities, and a hydrotherapy pool. The project is set to include 30 'village style' apartments that would allow for independent living with community care.

Labor's commitment will help ensure older Greek Victorians receive the care and comfort they deserve, while also giving their families peace of mind.

We all want our elderly loved ones to stay at home as long as possible. But sometimes, due to medical circumstances, it's just not possible. It's why providing tailored aged care services are so important.

Aged care dedicated to multicultural communities can make all the difference in helping older Victorians feel at home.

From offering traditional food to hosting dedicated spaces to practice religion and culture, these facilities ensure that older generations remain connected to their roots.

Research has also shown that those suffering from dementia often revert to their mother tongue. By having staff onsite that speak that same language, residents can be better understood and cared for.

With Melbourne home to the largest population of Greek people outside of Greece and more than 110,000 Victorians speaking Greek at home, it is critical that we invest in dedicated aged care services.

Under the previous Liberal Government, public aged care beds were set to be privatised, hurting older Victorians and their loved ones.

Only Labor recognises the vast contribution of older Greek Victorians and is willing to make the investments that really matter.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos

*"We'll never be able to repay our yiayiades and pappoudes for their many contributions. But we can make sure they get the care and compassion they deserve."*

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**Quotes attributable to Member for Bentleigh Nick Staikos**

*“This investment will mean elderly Greek Victorians will be able to rely on dedicated care, and their families will have that peace of mind.”*

**Quotes attributable to Member for Oakleigh Steve Dimopoulos**

*“Our older generations have given so much to our state – it’s only fitting we make sure they get the dignity they deserve in their later years.”*