



**MONTESSORI
AGEING SUPPORT SERVICES**
Support and Learning for Life

Montessori Ageing Support Services (MASS), a division of the Montessori Australia Foundation (MAF), is the national peak body for supporting quality of life for older Australians through the Montessori approach. In particular, it oversees training, consulting, promotion and endorsement of enriched Montessori environments for older people receiving care services. It promotes independence, self-esteem, choice and meaningful activity through the recognition of individual strengths, needs, interests and the establishment of expertly prepared environments.

MASS provides a range of training and consultancy options to suit all organisations. MASS currently works with organisations around the country to change the lives of older people receiving care services in both the community and residential sectors by creation of Montessori Environments.

QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

Montessori Ageing Support Services has also developed a Quality Assurance Program (MASSQAP). This has been developed to partner with and support all ageing care services providing Montessori environments and to engage these services in a process of review, improvement and maintenance to ensure the highest level of Montessori experiences for people receiving care services that they believe to be Montessori in nature.

The emphasis for the MASSQAP is on continuous improvement rather than accreditation. It highlights Montessori indicators for quality practice and supports these with a model of mentoring and professional development.

The Montessori Ageing Support Services Quality Assurance Council (MASSQAC) through the Montessori Australia Foundation (MAF) administers the MASSQAP. All ageing care, disability community services are eligible to participate irrespective of the Montessori training background of staff.

The MASS website (massa.org.au) will list all services participating in the MASSQAP.

WHY SHOULD MY FACILITY OR SERVICE PARTICIPATE?

- To promote and increase confidence in the provision of high quality Montessori environments for current and prospective families.
- To inform families of quality practice and delivery of Montessori environments.

- To assist staff with the development of a culture of continuous reflection and improvement leading to maintenance of quality outcomes for consumers.
- To promote and increase the profile and outcomes of Montessori environments with State and Federal Governments leading to the validation and recognition of Montessori models.
- To fit within and support services to meet State and Federal Government requirements for improvement of standards, quality teaching and learning, accountability and professionalism.
- To assist with linking the Montessori International Standards with national Standards that govern practices such as the Aged Care Accreditation Standards.
- To increase awareness of the Montessori approach to ageing and disability care and Montessori philosophy in the wider Australian community.

WHO IS THE MONTESSORI AGEING SUPPORT SERVICES QUALITY ASSURANCE COUNCIL?

The MASSQAC consists of Montessori experts from around the world. This committee sits under the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) Scientific Pedagogy Group and has been responsible for developing the International Montessori Ageing Support Quality Standards.

If you would like further information on Montessori training, consultancy or the quality standards please contact Anne Kelly, Managing Director on mobile 0418 526 808 or by email at anne@massa.org.au.

CONSULTANCY, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

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