

SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN CARE RELATIONSHIPS IN VICTORIA

CARERS RECOGNITION ACT 2012

The *Carers Recognition Act 2012* recognises people in care relationships, and supports the role of carers in the community. This Act is supported by the *Victorian charter supporting people in care relationships*.

If you are a carer or a person receiving care, you can expect to:

- > be recognised and respected as an individual, including your cultural identity
- > be recognised and respected as part of the care relationship
- > where appropriate, have a say in decisions about care planning and care
- > have your needs understood and met
- > receive support now and as your needs change
- > be able to use what the Act and charter say to support your relationship and use of services.

Under the Carers Recognition Act, organisations funded by government to support you, have to:

- > be staffed by people who understand and comply with the Act
- > inform those in care relationships about what the Act means for them
- > treat people in care relationships respectfully
- > reflect the Act principles in their planning and how they support people
- > report publicly about how they are meeting their obligations.

If you feel your needs are not being met or your role as a carer not properly supported, ask to speak to the manager of the service about your concerns.

For more information about how the Carers Recognition Act and the *Victorian charter supporting people in care relationships* affect you, phone Carers Victoria on 1800 242 636, or see www.dhs.vic.gov.au/carersact