

## Where to begin guide

It's often hard to know what steps to take or where to look ----

## 1. Assess your eligibility for Rest Home / Continuing Care

You will need to be assessed by your local Needs Assessment and Service Coordination agency (NASC). Or in some regions, Care Coordination - Older Person's Health.

NASC and Care Coordination provide information, advice, and support to older people who are having difficulty living at home. You can contact them yourself, or your doctor can refer you.

NASC and Care Coordination will visit you and talk to you about your lifestyle and care needs to find the best care option for you. After you've been assessed, you'll receive a letter to let you know whether you're eligible for care services and, if so, what level of care and government assistance you are entitled to.

To find your local NASC visit: <a href="www.nznasca.co.nz/regions">www.nznasca.co.nz/regions</a>

## 2. What will it cost?

Costs vary according to your needs and the type of care accommodation you choose. Once you've been assessed as needing care, you can apply for a residential care subsidy. This subsidy is asset tested by Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) and the asset thresholds are adjusted yearly.

If your assets are above the asset threshold, you pay the cost of care. If your assets fall below the threshold during your time in care, you will become eligible to apply for the residential care subsidy.

If your assets are below the asset threshold, you will qualify for government funding. You will need to complete an application form that will be provided by NASC and then WINZ <u>Work and Income New Zealand</u> will assess your assets and tell you how much you will need to pay towards the cost of your care.

## 3. Come in for a visit.

Choosing the right care centre is an important decision. People often tell us they 'feel the difference' when they visit one of our care centres, and we'd love to share that with you.