

## **PRINCIPLES FOR INCLUSION IN A CATHOLIC HOSPITAL OR AGED CARE SERVICE'S POLICY FOR CARE AND ACCOMMODATION OF SAME-SEX ATTRACTED PEOPLE**

Many Catholic aged care and hospital providers already have practices in place that affirm the ability to provide care and services to people identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or of indeterminate gender. It is not necessary to have a written policy in place to guide such practices, but in the event that CHA members seek to articulate written policies, they would ideally contain the following elements:

- Catholic hospitals and aged care services do not discriminate in respect to who they provide care to or who they accommodate as residents within their facilities;
  - All people will be cared for within Catholic hospitals and aged care services with respect, compassion and sensitivity;
  - Catholic hospitals and aged care services operate in accordance with the *Code of Ethical Standards for Catholic Health and Aged Care Services in Australia*, which means there are some circumstances where some specific services cannot be provided. A decision to provide services is judged on its merits and according to its own particular circumstances.
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