Help us ensure older New Zealanders get the care they need when they need it

Grey Power is supporting a Parliamentary petition calling for an inquiry into whether older New Zealanders are being unnecessarily delayed or prevented from accessing the aged residential care they need. We are asking our members and associations throughout New Zealand to help collect signatures.

Every older New Zealander should be able to access the right care, at the right time, in the right place, preferably close to home.

However, there are growing concerns that some older people who need aged residential care are remaining at home or in other care settings longer than is safe or clinically appropriate.

These delays can place enormous pressure on older people and their families, with potentially serious consequences for their health, wellbeing and safety.

The Aged Care Association has initiated a petition asking Parliament to investigate whether assessment processes, funding arrangements or service delivery practices are contributing to these delays.

What is the petition asking Parliament to do?

The request is for an "Inquiry into delays in accessing aged residential care"

That the House of Representatives initiate an inquiry into whether assessment, funding or service delivery practices are delaying older New Zealanders' access to clinically appropriate aged residential care, and the consequences for their health, wellbeing and safety.

The petition does not presume what an inquiry will find. It asks Parliament to examine whether barriers exist, why they exist and what their consequences are for older New Zealanders.

Grey Power believes that access to appropriate health care must be determined by a person's needs, not simply by what might be cheapest for the health system.

We need your signature

We are asking Grey Power members to support this petition and encourage their families, friends and communities to do the same.

Here's how you can help:

1. Print the attached petition signature sheet.
2. Sign the petition and encourage others to add their signatures.
3. Ask your local Grey Power association to help collect signatures in your community.
4. Return completed signature sheets to the Aged Care Association by 31 January 2027.

Petition sheets may be printed or photocopied, but signatures must be original and handwritten. Completed sheets must be returned by post, not by email or scanning.

Return completed petition sheets to:

Aged Care Association
Level 8, 342 Lambton Quay,
Wellington 6011

The Aged Care Association will manage the administration of the petition, including providing additional signature sheets and assisting with return postage where required.

For enquiries, additional sheets or return postage arrangements, contact:

Aged Care Association
office@aca.org.nz
Phone: 04 473 3159

The petition is intended to be presented to the House of Representatives in February 2027.

Why your support matters

Older New Zealanders have contributed to their families, communities and country throughout their lives. When they need residential care, they should be able to access it in a timely manner and at a level appropriate to their needs.

By signing this petition, you are helping to ask Parliament to investigate whether our health system is meeting that responsibility.

Please sign the petition and help us make sure older New Zealanders' voices are heard in Parliament.

Grey Power New Zealand Federation, supporting the Aged Care Association's Parliamentary petition.