

# The clock is ticking...

With our rapidly ageing population the state of our aged care system has become a critical issue for most Australians.

Demand for aged care places are expected to increase by 50-60 percent over the next 10 years—that's an extra 90,000 Australians who will require aged care.

**How is our aged care system going to cope when it's already buckling under the pressure of too few nurses and not enough funding?**

Nurses are leaving aged care because they're paid up to \$300 a week less than their colleagues in other sectors, while those who stay are left to care for up to 60 residents each, many with complex needs.

Over-worked and under-resourced, aged care nurses worry about the quality of care they are able to provide to residents.



# Tell the government it's time to deliver for aged care in Budget 2010



With people power we can ensure the government commits the funding needed to fix aged care.

## Ask the Treasurer to fix aged care

All you need to do is visit our website at [www.qnu.org.au](http://www.qnu.org.au) to send Treasurer Wayne Swan a message from the community of Queensland.



**Hurry – the clock is ticking!**

## It's time for action!

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Authorised by G. Hawksworth, Secretary, Queensland Nurses' Union. March 2010 v2.

# It's time to deliver for aged care



## Budget 2010



Working Together

because  
we care

Quality care for older Australians

# Our ask for Budget 2010

The 2010 federal budget represents a very real opportunity to fix some of the chronic issues affecting aged care.

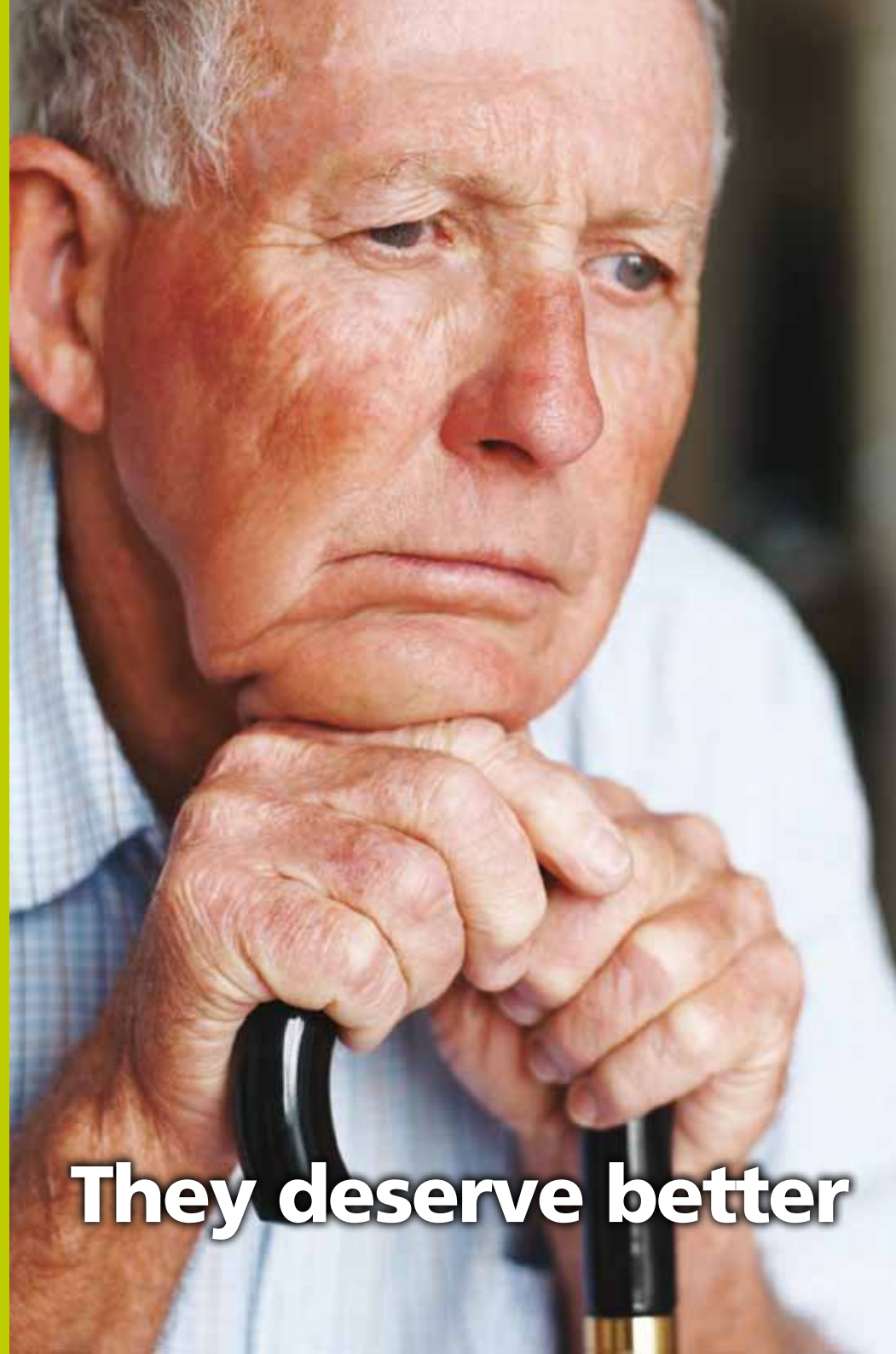
As the budget has not yet been finalised, we know there's still time for the government to commit adequate funding to ensure:

- 1** The right balance of skills and nursing hours so that nursing and care staff can provide quality care for every resident.
- 2** Fair pay for aged care nurses and care staff who are paid up to \$300 per week less than nurses in the other sectors.
- 3** Recognition of the professional skills of Assistants in Nursing and care staff through a national licensing system.
- 4** A guarantee that taxpayer funding is used for nursing and personal care for each resident.

Older Australians must have access to quality care that's delivered by nurses with the necessary skills and resources to ensure it's the best care possible.

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Quality care for older Australians



## They deserve better



"I see how my husband's care suffers because there aren't enough nurses and they don't have enough time. Something must be done to fix aged care."

Sylvia's husband is a resident in aged care.

"The nurses and carers are always in a rush here—they won't keep doing such demanding work for so little pay. What will happen to us then?"

Brenda has been an aged care resident for six years.

