

## Pay rise rewards

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**FAIR Work Australia's decision to grant community service workers substantial pay increases is common sense. Community services work is often complex and challenging.**

This work has been underpaid because it is seen to rely on the "natural" caring skills of women. The fact that men, who are a small proportion of workers in this field may also benefit, does not deny the gender discrimination that this workforce has suffered from.

The decision will make it possible for community service workers to remain in direct service roles where their knowledge and skills are needed most. This is a great victory for community service workers and the vulnerable Australians they serve.

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