

Annual Report

SPANISH COMMUNITY CARE ASSOCIATION
2020-2021



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About Us

Spanish Community Care Association (SCCA) is a non-profit incorporated association. Our aim is to meet the specific needs for disadvantaged seniors who are socially isolated, alone or lonely members of the Spanish speaking community within the Sydney metropolitan area.

Our direct support services aim to provide welfare assistance, mental health care and support to our clients with particular emphasis on those who may be disadvantaged due to age, physical and mental special needs, language and communication barriers, isolated, alone and lonely clients with limited access to social welfare support.

SCCA provides a range of quality services, support, information, referrals, programs and activities. We also connect people to government and other social services and advocate on their behalf in their own language.

These services are flexible and cater to our client's individual needs and circumstances. We also provide assistance with home care visits and personal care services.





President Report

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Covid-19 continues to be our major challenge. Last year we expected that with social distancing, hand washing and face-masks that the epidemic would be over in a few months. However, with over 4 million deaths worldwide, virus variants spread and spikes, we've faced prolonged "lockdowns" and social isolation. Our community has responded well to the vaccine and hopefully we can return to "normality" or life as we knew it very soon.

Since 2006, **SCCA** has assisted mainly the elderly, with hospital and nursing home visits, home care and other group activities. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, we have had to adapt to orders and restrictions imposed by NSW Health .

From July 2020 till February 2021 we have continued with our monthly newsletter.

Unfortunately we were unable to accommodate our regular 80 members to our usual Friday meetings but we managed to arrange weekly meetings with only 12 members every week at the Counterpoint Community Centre. During these lunch time meetings, we discussed and explored migrant experiences and anecdotes with some of our members, resulting in both a video and a book. We are very grateful to Yurangai and Counterpoint for the use of their facilities.



In December 2020 we had the opportunity to thank our volunteers. It is through them that **SCCA** is able to keep in touch with our clients and check on their wellbeing and state of mind.

In March 2021 we had our first event after Covid-19 restrictions. With the support of the Spanish Government, we celebrated both, belated Christmas Party and the 15th Anniversary of **SCCA**. It was a great opportunity to acknowledge all those who have come on board and contributed so much towards our ongoing journey to help others.

From mid-April 2021, with the easing of restrictions, **SCCA** was able to resume our weekly meetings every Tuesdays at the Abraham Mott Hall in Milsons Point. Once again, we were able to enjoy each other's company and spend time with our friends. We thank the City of Sydney for enabling us to use the new venue. It was here in April that **SCCA** celebrated the NSW Seniors Festival. In June 2021 we had the opportunity to pay tribute to some of our most senior members for their great contribution to Spanish and Australian cultures.

Despite being a very Covid-19 restrictive year, **SCCA** has been able to redirect , adapt and adjust all our programs and events.

We take this opportunity to thank everyone involved, as mentioned above, who have made this year so memorable. A special mention goes to Counterpoint, where our admin offices are located, to our volunteers, staff and board of directors.

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Activity & Events

Around the Table Talks

From July 2020 to February 2021, we had to cancel our weekly Day Care Centre at Ultimo Community Centre due of Covid-19 restrictions.

We took this opportunity to meet "Around the table Talks" to chat with our senior members, where they shared their experiences and anecdotes on their arrival to Australia all those years ago. These meetings led **SCCA** to engage in a project with the City of Sydney to get funding to produce a video and book. The launch was projected for June 2021, but due to the new Covid-19 restrictions we had to postpone it .

Thank you to all the members who participated in this project and shared their stories with us.



Irene



Maite



Ana



Small Meetings at The Factory

During the Covid-19 restrictions, we had weekly meetings at the Factory in Counterpoint Community Services Centre. The members enjoyed their time together talking, playing bingo and having lunch.





Christmas Party Celebration & SCCA 15 year Anniversary

This was our first major event for 2021, after more than a year unable to gather all together. In March, with the support of the Spanish Government, we celebrated Christmas at the "En Casa" restaurant. It was a beautiful opportunity to thank all those who have joined us for the last fifteen amazing years of learning and growth.

Congratulations **SCCA**.



Senior Festival

In April 2021, we celebrated "I love to Dance " at Abraham Mott Hall (Millers Point) with the support of the grant from NSW Senior Festival, A large number of members participated in the event. We danced and enjoyed our time with Professor Caro and Emilio!





Mother's Day

In May 2021 we celebrated Mothers day, honouring all **SCCA** mothers. A big hug to all mothers and all those who are seen as a mother figure. We thank the beautiful Mercedes who entertained us with her incredible voice. Thank you for this memorable performance !!!



Senior Tribute

We had the opportunity to pay tribute to some of our partners for their great contribution to Spanish and Australian Culture.



We would like to thank the Consul General of Spain Juan Manuel Molina Lamothe for his support, his presence, his energy, his great work and unconditional friendship with **SCCA**. On behalf of the Spanish community we say thank you Juan Manuel !!!



Home Visit Program - CVS

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SCCA manages federal funding for the Community Visitors Scheme (CVS) program. The aim of the program is to provide companionship to Senior citizens at risk of isolation and to increase independence, diminished feelings of depression and anxiety and facilitate a connection to wider community.

The clients who receive volunteer home visits thoroughly enjoy it and they look forward to the weekly visits. It has been very positive for our seniors to engage, interact and chat in their own language and share similar cultural values and customs during these visits .

With regards to the volunteers, some have relocated to Australia, and they appreciate the opportunity to associate, share and exchange experiences with other Spanish speaking friends.

Our visits, minimise the isolation from the general community and more so during Covid-19 period. Our home visits are really essential and much appreciated by the members.



**Spanish Community Care
Association Inc**
is a registered charity with
the Australian Charities and
Not-for-profits
Commission & DGR Status.
ABN 70472667615



67 Raglan St. Waterloo, NSW 2017
•02 9698 3731•

www.spanishcare.org.au