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SILVER CHAIN'S INTERGENERATIONAL DEMENTIA PROGRAM ENGAGES GERALDTON COMMUNITY

Silver Chain is currently piloting an Intergenerational Dementia Program designed to improve the quality of life for Dementia sufferers and increase awareness and understanding of the disease in the local Geraldton community.

Ms Gill Walsh, Silver Chain Regional Services Manager, notes that the Program encourages participants to engage in life and reconnect with the community through enriching activities.

"Whilst providing a well earned break for carers, Silver Chain's Intergenerational Program also seeks to alleviate depression and loneliness for people with Dementia. This is done through encouraging social interaction with preprimary and primary school aged children which we understand disrupts the repetitive behavior patterns often demonstrated by Dementia sufferers, in a positive way," said Ms Walsh.

"Held two days per week for four hours, the Program will include a playgroup session, sensory stimulation activities, assisting children with their reading and spelling skills and preparing afternoon tea with Silver Chain. The Program is open to anyone who is suffering from Dementia and the only cost to clients will be for lunch.

"We are really excited about this Program and believe that it has a real potential to assist those in need and, more broadly, increase the community's capacity to maximize its health and wellbeing," concluded Ms Walsh.

To find out more, or to register on behalf of someone you know for the program, please contact Silver Chain on 1300 650 803, for the cost of a local call.

This program is funded by the Australian Government, Department of Health and Ageing.

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