

## **Canberra Nursing Home Providers Proactive About Protecting Staff!**

***Yesterday's alarming story in the TCT about abuse of nursing home staff by residents highlighted "a disturbing lack of training" for staff to deal adequately with 'challenging behaviours'. Local firm Bayley and Associates is pleased to report that many facilities in the region are have taken a proactive approach in preparing staff to deal with just this issue.***

Ruth Bayley, Director of local company Bayley and Associates yesterday described feeling both disturbed by the distressing news about widespread abuse in nursing homes around the country and yet confident that many ACT care facilities are in a much better position to protect staff. Because, she says, they have taken a proactive approach in training staff to deal with abuse and mental illness.

According to report co-author Tony Jones, the training that was required was in the areas of mental health, dementia care and particularly dealing with "challenging behaviours".

Ruth Bayley says: "The actions of a number of employers in our region defy the findings of the report. Over the last year, many have worked actively with us to provide in-depth training in skills such as safe manual handling processes, OH&S Issues, dealing with challenging behaviours and self-protection against physical interactions with residents."

Of course, according to Ms Bayley, there is always more that can be done to protect staff and the new report highlights this. Ruth and her experienced team work with the managers of these facilities on an ongoing basis to identify new issues and tailor training to equip staff to do a quality job caring for the aged and disabled confidently and safely.

Ruth Bayley is available for comment on any aspect of the issues including: key safety problems in care facilities and types of training that can be provided. She can also provide contacts of care providers who can speak first hand about the benefits of training in dealing with the problem of abuse.

For more information check out the Bayley and Associates website:  
[www.bayleyteam.com.au](http://www.bayleyteam.com.au).