

A major issue in the aged care industry is the lack of staff. Fewer and fewer people are willing to study this profession as they have heard things such as; bad pay, bad hours, showering and toileting clients etc. This is a huge issue, because without trained staff, organisations are left to manage their facility with a small amount of staff.

Lack of staff within the workplace, places a large amount of stress on the current workers. The staff can be assigned to up to double the amount of clients they usually have to care for. When a staff member has to shower, dress, and then feed their clients by breakfast time with up to six clients to care for, the job becomes messy. With this busy schedule the jobs and caring of the client is poorly done. Poor caring leads to unhappy clients, and unhappy families. The families start to believe that they are paying a large amount of money so that their aged person gets poorly cared for. This leads to a bad reputation for the organisation. Once the organisation has a bad reputation, fewer clients will

want to live here, and will choose different facilities. The organisation then faces a lack of profit, which impacts badly on the workplace.

For health and aged care industries to minimise this issue, it is essential that they have the correct amount of staff, possibly more than they need, so the workers can have flexible hours without leaving the clients in the hands of rushed carers.

A specific example of a workplace experience, was every single morning at a high care aged care facility. Each carer was assigned to two rooms, where each room consisted of four clients. This meant the carer had 8 clients to get up, shower and feed all around breakfast time. One room was woken bright and early so they could be showered and taken to the toilet, after they had dressed them, bed sheets needed to be changed and feeding had to be done. This first room was only done by breakfast, which lead the second room to having to eat breakfast in bed, then showered etc. It was very busy and stressful days, and poor care was provided.

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