



16 May 2011

NACC LAUNCHES PETITION TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MALNUTRITION AND DEHYDRATION IN OLDER PEOPLE

The National Association of Care Catering (NACC) has today announced the launch of a petition, which they hope will help to raise the profile of vulnerable older people at risk of malnutrition and dehydration. There continues to be a lack of awareness across health & social care sectors of the role good nutrition and hydration play in maintaining people's quality of life and all round well being. This situation is now likely to be aggravated as many of the services which provide prevention and support are under threat due to budgetary pressures.

It is hoped that the support gained through the petition will go some way to helping the NACC fight malnutrition and improve the quality of life of vulnerable older people in the UK. It may in turn prevent our valued services from further cuts or closure.

Derek Johnson NACC National Chair said "This is the first time the NACC has asked the public at large to support our cause, but we feel we need to raise the issue of malnutrition in the UK as much as we can. We hope by doing this people will realise the benefits of good nutrition and hydration at all stages of life."

He added "Through increased awareness we can make a difference to a person's well being, which in turn could release some of the burden on our over stretched social and health services"

This petition is part of the on-going 'No One Should Go Hungry' campaign the association launched in October 2010.

Ends

For more information and a copy of the report, please contact: Derek Johnson, **Chair NACC** on: 07891271870/ 0870 7480 180 chair@thenacc.co.uk

Notes to editors:

The National Association of Care Catering (NACC) is a progressive organisation representing professionals providing catering to the care industry. They are recognised by Local Authorities, independent providers, the charitable sector and Government departments as a prime source of information and opinion on all aspects of catering within the care sector and whose primary aim is to improve standards.

The NACC works with a number of partners to:

- To promote and enrich the standard of catering within the care sector, whether that catering be provided by Social Care Departments or other Caring Agencies
- To provide a forum for debate among individuals, companies and organisations of all kinds involved in catering for the care sector
- To facilitate the exchange of information, experience and expertise
- To promote the development of professional standards among those involved in catering for the care sector
- To commission research into matters relating to catering for the care sector
- To publish guidelines, policy papers and authoritative statements on all aspects of catering for the care sector