The Transition Care Program is a collaborative initiative that is jointly funded by the Australian Government and States and Territories.

The SA Department of Health is the Approved Provider of the Transition Care Program in South Australia. The Department, in consultation with health regions, Aged Care Assessment Teams and non government health, aged care and community care sectors, ensures that funds are prioritised and allocated across South Australia and monitors and manages the program outcomes.

Service providers are responsible for delivering a range of services to older people assessed as eligible for the program. Service providers in South Australia include the health regions and transition care services delivered through partnerships across the non government sector. Their role is to consult, develop and maintain relationships with health providers and services that support clients with the development and implementation of their care plan.
The Transition Care Program provides short term support for older people at the end of their hospital stay. The program is aimed at those people who require more time and support in a non hospital environment to complete their recovery process, optimise their functional capacity and finalise their longer term care arrangements.

The Transition Care Program is time limited to a twelve week program with an average of eight weeks' duration; it is therapy focussed and based on an individualised care plan developed with the older person and their family/carer(s). The program may be provided in a residential or community setting, dependent on individual care needs.

The program provides a package of services to older people that include low intensity therapy such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy and social work, nursing support and/or personal care. The costs to the care recipient in the Transition Care Program will vary according to the setting, however, no one will be refused a service on the basis of their capacity to pay.

The Transition Care Program
- increases care choices for older people, their families and carers
- provides a flexible program addressing gaps in care for older people, and
- minimises inappropriate extended length of stay in hospital.