



**PalliativeCare**  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

# ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 28 August 2017

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I begin this bulletin by formally advising the palliative care community that Ms Gayle Sweaney has resigned from the position of CEO. Gayle has made a wonderful contribution to the management of PC ACT over the past 22 months and on behalf of the Board, staff and volunteers I thank her for her great work and wish her well for the future.

Ms Nefley Hetherington is acting as interim CEO while we go through the recruitment process. An advertisement will appear on the Seek website on 29 August.

Ms Karen Shaw our Fundraising and Events officer is also leaving us at the end of August. Karen was responsible for the success of the High Tea at The Lodge as well as organising the Life Stories Breakfast launch and working with others on the Power of Music concert. Karen has been with us for 9 months and we also wish her well for the future.

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

We currently have 157 active volunteers with a further 59 on the waiting list. The next round of volunteer training will take place early in the New Year. Training for our Life Stories volunteers begins on 4 September. I am pleased to report we currently have 18 volunteers undertaking this training.

The rostering of volunteers at Goodwin has generated positive feedback both from Goodwin management and our clients. As a result we are now looking to expand into other facilities.

## CEO & STAFF ACTIVITIES

The Interim CEO and Operations Manager met with ACT Health on 28 August to discuss the draft research project on attitudes and preferences for palliative care in the ACT. The final report and its recommendations will have an impact on PC ACT service delivery in the future.

The Operations Manager and one of our Volunteer Co-ordinators will be attending the bi-annual Palliative Care Conference in Adelaide between 5-8 September and I will be attending the next meeting of State Presidents also in Adelaide on 5 September. These fora provide an excellent opportunity to network with our colleagues interstate, share ideas, identify synergies and generally work towards a more collaborative approach to palliative care. It is anticipated that the Federal Health Minister will announce funding of \$5.5 million over three years to Palliative Care Australia for a variety of projects and we will be working closely with PCA to keep abreast of and assist with these projects.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer and interim CEO met with Bellchambers Barrett on 28 August to discuss the 2016-2017 audit of PC ACT books. I am delighted to report that there are no significant issues, and that Bellchambers Barrett advised that good processes have been followed. The Board acknowledged the excellent work of Ms Andrea McDermott in preparing the documentation for the audit.

Draft budgets for 2017-2018 were presented to the Board and are currently being considered.

## FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

**Life Stories Breakfast** - The relaunch of Life Stories occurred at a breakfast at the Hotel Realm on 9 August with Jean Kittson as our guest speaker. While we were hopeful of a larger attendance, it was nonetheless a great morning. At very short notice Julie Elliott spoke on behalf of Palliative Care ACT and I thank her for her efforts.

**Movie Night** - Our next fundraiser is a movie night. We are showing Victoria and Abdul at Palace Cinema on Sunday 17 September commencing at 4.15 pm. If you haven't bought your ticket yet, please get in quickly by registering with Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/palliative-care-act-movie-night-tickets-36817304549> For \$35 you will get to see a great movie, starring Judi Dench as Queen Victoria, plus a drink of wine, bubbles or beer, nibbles, a choc top and popcorn, so it represents excellent value for money.

**Gala Dinner** - Our final fundraiser for the year is the Gala Dinner on Saturday 14 October to be held at the Canberra Southern Cross Club. It will be a night of great food, live music, auctions and lots of fun, so come and kick up your heels. Festivities start at 6.30 pm and "black and white" is the dress theme. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased through Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/palliative-care-act-fundraising-dinner-tickets-36991397265?aff=es2>

## NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD

The next meeting of the PC ACT Board will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 25 September 2017.

Louise Mayo  
President