



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 17 July 2018

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Board was pleased to welcome Julie Elliott to present the Operations report for the period April to June 2018. Items of significance included a drop in the number of referrals for volunteer support, against the same period last year (ie 49 referrals in 2017 vs 40 referrals in 2018), but an increase in the number of client hours (ie 2477 in 2017 vs 2855 in 2018). Some of the increase in hours related to the reintroduction of the life stories program.

Two new groups of volunteers were trained in late June and early July, resulting in an extra 14 volunteers being available. They are currently undertaking the Working with Vulnerable People check. As this can take up to 45 business days, we have revised our recruitment process. Now people will be interviewed as they apply and if found suitable will be required to start the WWVP process so that on completion of training they can be deployed immediately.

Julie attended the National Volunteer Conference in Melbourne from 20-22 June under a scholarship fully funded by the Department of Social Services. Panel discussions included:

- *The Role of Charities in Advocacy* where panellists were asked what their view on charity advocacy was and what role they thought the sector should play;
- *Resourcing the Sector* which covered the importance of channelling resources to contribute to the health and sustainability of an organisation;
- *Volunteering in the Gig Economy* which looked at the fact that approximately 35% of the workforce are now freelancers and what this means in terms of their availability for volunteering.

There was also a Celebrity Panel where Adam Goodes, Paula Duncan, Jean Kitson, Judy Nunn, and Bruce Venables spoke about how their lives were enriched by volunteering to support or attend functions and fundraising events.

IMPLICATIONS OF VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING ON PALLIATIVE CARE IN THE ACT

On Saturday 15 September a one day forum will take place to discuss the implications of voluntary assisted dying on palliative care in the ACT. National subject matter experts including Professor Dr David Kissane, psychiatrist and Professor of Palliative Care at Melbourne University, Professor Dr Paul Komesaroff, physician, researcher and philosopher from Monash University, Betty King QC, Chair of the VAD Review Board Victoria and Linda Sheahan, Palliative Care Clinician have been invited



COMMUNITY AWARENESS

to attend. PC ACT will be involved with the Steering Committee.

A delegation from the Tan Toeh Seng Hospital in Singapore visited PC ACT. They provided useful insights into the structure and models of care in Singapore and were very interested in the structure and management of our own organisation. The Singapore Hospice Council has experienced great success from its current campaign "Live Well Die Well" which aims to change the way society views death and dying.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The draft budget for 2018-2019 was endorsed by the Board. It was noted that the ACT Government has confirmed that funding has increased by 2.45% next year. However, the \$476,127 ex GST that we receive is only about 70% of our operating costs, hence the need for continued fundraising efforts.

ANNUAL DINNER

Planning is well underway for our 4th Annual Palliative Care ACT Dinner which will be held at the Southern Cross Club on Saturday 13 October. Tickets are \$90 per head and include a three-course meal, some wine, entertainment and lots of fun. We need the support of everyone to make this a success. Come along, make up a table and check with your favourite store holders and see what they might be able to donate to our silent auction or our butterfly net.

NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD

The next meeting of the PC ACT Board will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 27 August 2018.



Louise President
President