



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 24 August 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE HUB

As many of you will know, for the past two years we have been working towards the development of a respite centre, enabling carers to take a break from the often-exhausting job of looking after a loved one. While discussions are still in train with government on land for a permanent centre, the development pipeline can be long. However, the need for such a centre is pressing now. Consequently, we have been directing our immediate efforts towards establishing a 'proof of concept' Hub, in other words, a smaller scale centre, run from a home environment.

I am pleased to report that plans are advancing for the pop-up Hub, as we call it. Morgan's Financial Services have pledged to pay the rental on a property for the first twelve months. We are in early discussions with Carers ACT, with a view to their involvement. We have had support from a number of places to help furnish the pop-up Hub and we are working on operational issues, staffing etc.

What we don't have yet is a suitable property. Ideally, we are seeking a four-bedroom, two-bathroom house, preferably on one level. We plan to engage with the media to see whether publicity can generate the identification of a suitable place. If anyone knows of such a property, please contact Tracy Gillard on 6255 5771.

ONLINE PAYMENTS

In a bid to facilitate a streamlined approach for payment of such items as membership fees, wine orders, dinner tickets etc, the Board approved changes to our website to facilitate online payments. This may take a little while to implement, but it will certainly simplify payment processes for payees and for palliative care staff.

RISK AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Owing to pressures of work, Michelle Kelly has resigned as Chair of the Risk and Audit Committee. I thank Ms Kelly for her excellent contribution over the past two years. Ms Jocelyn Ashford, an existing member of the RAC, has taken on the role of Chair and Ms Leanne Yannopoulos has been appointed to fill the vacancy created by Ms Ashford's move.

PERFORMANCE REPORT JANUARY-JUNE 2020

The General Manager presented a performance report for the first six months of this calendar year. While the number of hours undertaken at Clare Holland House have reduced considerably owing to COVID restrictions, home based, and residential aged care hours were similar to the same period in 2019. In addition, the hours spent on the Life Stories program has more than doubled since 2019.

Volunteer enquiries have increased as well as the number of people trained. A further training session is scheduled for September. While there have been 13 resignations/retirements during the period, two more than for the same period in 2019, the total number of new volunteers outweighs the numbers of people leaving.



FINANCIAL POSITION

The financial position of the organisation continues to be strong which puts us in a good position to fund expenses associated with the Hub.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Palliative Care ACT will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 28 September 2020.

