



**PalliativeCare**  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

# ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 22 Novemer 2021

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we slide towards the end of another busy year, I wish to place on record the Board's sincere thanks to our wonderful staff and the 150 + volunteers for their dedication, flexibility and resilience. This time last year, few people foreshadowed that COVID would return with such a vengeance, but as an organisation we have risen to the challenges, providing an impressive 9322 hours of volunteer support.

### LEO'S PLACE

Our major achievement has been the opening of Leo's Place, our home-away-from-home respite centre, where both the person with a life limiting illness and their carer can take a break in a beautiful environment.

At our November meeting, Ms Ann Monahan, the Manager of Leo's Place, reported that 3553 hours of carer support have been provided at Leo's since its opening in January. Eight casual staff have been employed and client feedback is excellent.

### ICT INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE

The Board is of the view that it is timely to upgrade our aging ICT Infrastructure. COVID has certainly seen a change in how staff work with the need for increased mobility and flexibility. Our plan is to transition to laptops with a docking station set up and to upgrade all our telephones. This is currently a work in progress, but we intend to implement the change early in the new year.

### EFFICIENCY REVIEW / LIFE STORIES PROGRAM

Daniel Oyston has recently completed an efficiency review of the Life Stories Program. He interviewed staff, volunteers and external parties as well as researching the Eastern Palliative Care Association's award-winning biography program. He strongly supported the continuation of the program and presented nine Recommendations for consideration by the Board. These recommendations centred on greater efficiencies in the program, the development of a process document and the implementation of a peer support system. All nine recommendations were supported by the Board.

### END OF YEAR FUNCTION

As a thank you to our volunteers for their contribution over the past 12 months, a function has been arranged for 5.30 -7.30 pm on Thursday 2 December at the Tom Elvin Centre. Eat Your Words Catering will provide delicious refreshments so please come along if you are a volunteer as we would love to catch up, share a Christmas drink and thank you for your support this year.

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

We held a wonderful fundraising evening at the Opening Night of the new James Bond movie No Time To Die on 11 November. It was good to see quite a number of our volunteers attend. We raised just over \$5,000 thanks to the wonderful support of our sponsor William Cole Funerals.



Our final fundraising event for 2021 is a wine-tasting night to be held at Farrah's Liquor Collective, 8 Townsville Street, Fyshwick from 5.30 – 8.30 on Wednesday 8 December 2021. A great range of wine will be available for tasting and Matthew Farrah has agreed to donate a percentage of the wine and beer sales on the night to assist us in supporting those individuals and their families living with life limiting illnesses.

We would love you to come and support Pal Care. Please phone the office on 6255 5771 and book your spot.

## CHRISTMAS WISHES

This was the final Board Meeting for 2021. Little did we appreciate at the beginning of the year that we would face continuing COVID challenges. I am immensely proud of the way that the Palliative Care staff and volunteers adjusted to the changes that had to be made because of the virus.

A huge thank you goes to everyone involved with Palliative Care this year. This is an organisation that centres around people care. We deliver because we have outstanding staff, wonderful volunteers and a dedicated Board, all of which augurs well for our future.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas. If you are travelling, please travel safely, and I look forward to working with you all in 2022.

Dr. Louise Mayo AM  
President