



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 17 January 2022

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A very Happy New Year to the Palliative Care family. I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas, celebrated with the important people in your life, and that you are ready for an exciting 2022. I was browsing the Canberra Times over the holiday and saw a death notice which suggested that, in lieu of flowers, mourners might like to contribute to Palliative Care ACT, in recognition of the excellent work of our volunteer program.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Our General Manager, Julie Elliott, joined the Board Meeting and presented her quarterly report, covering the period October to December 2021. She reported that shifts at Clare Holland House did resume for a while but owing to the increased number of Omnicron cases in the community, Calvary Infection Control imposed a further lockdown from Boxing Day. Only those volunteers writing the bereavement cards have been permitted access to a non-clinical area with CHH.

Although Residential Aged Care Facilities are still in lock down, it is pleasing to see that many volunteers have continued to provide support to clients via phone calls and Facetime. We understand that the Council on the Aging is advocating on the visitor code of practice in Residential Aged Care as many people have no one to visit or advocate for them. Home visits have continued with all volunteers observing best health care practices.

LEO'S PLACE

It is almost twelve months since we launched Leo's Place and the feedback we receive from clients and carers is outstanding. Over 5500 hours of service have been provided to the end of December 2021. We are currently in discussions with the ACT Government regarding continued funding for this respite facility and in the coming weeks will provide the government with data on Leo's Place plus feedback from the University of NSW's independent review.

NEW VEHICLE

We have recently taken delivery of a Toyota RAV4 to replace the General Manager's Honda and both it and the Skoda have been wrapped to promote Leo's Place. Our thanks to Canberra Toyota, which provided a very good deal on the vehicle and also paid for half the wrapping costs for the Toyota.





EFFICIENCY REVIEWS, LIFE STORIES AND HOME BASED

The recommendations of the efficiency review on the Life Stories Program have been well received. More than half the recommendations have been implemented. The IT recommendations should be completed by the end of February. The review of the Home Based Program is currently in progress.

CARERS RECOGNITION BALL 2021

The Carers Recognition Act was signed into law on 2 December 2021 bringing the ACT into line with NSW, SA, Qld, WA and the NT. The Act stipulates that care and carer support organisations are required to consult with carers and/or any entity representing carers when planning or reviewing support services and programs. This would, therefore, include Palliative Care ACT.

ICT INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE

Implementation of the ICT upgrade commenced on 18 January 2022 with new docking stations for staff. The transition to the Teams phone solution will occur in February once the installation of the new hardware is completed.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Wine Tasting: A very successful wine tasting evening was held on 8 December at Farrah's Liquor Collective raising almost \$3,000.

Dinner: Due to continuing concerns about COVID, the Board decided to move the dinner to mid-year. Further details will be made available once arrangements are confirmed.

Movie: Tentative plans are in hand for the next movie night. We are currently awaiting confirmation on the release of Top Gun: Maverick which is likely to be May. Watch this space for more information.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Palliative Care ACT will be held on Monday 28 February 2022 at the Tom Elvin Centre.

Dr. Louise Mayo AM
President

