



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 22 August 2022

FROM THE PRESIDENT

STAFF DEPARTURE

I am saddened to announce the resignation of our General Manager, Julie Elliott, who will leave PC ACT on 13 September. Julie has been an outstanding member of staff during her seven-and-a-half-year tenure.

She has stepped into the CEO role on several occasions, has worked hard to put much of our training online and she was instrumental in the establishment of Leo's Place. On behalf of the Board and staff I wish Julie every success in her new role.

STAFF ARRIVAL

As many readers will be aware, the ACT Government has recently signed a Deed of Grant, providing additional funding for Leo's Place and expanding the role of PC ACT to include a strong advocacy role.

In a bid to transition our organisation to meet the needs of government and the palliative care community, Mr Jake Docker will start work as a consultant on 19 September for a three month period. Mr Docker has a wealth of experience in community engagement, strategic planning, project and program management, capacity building management and staff leadership. If you see him around the place, please make yourself known and welcome him aboard.

RESPIRE CENTRE

As most of you will know, Leo's Place was a proof of concept to test the interest and take up of respite care for those with a life limiting illness and their carers.

As this proof of concept has been successful, we have been turning our minds to a long-term location so we can build a facility that is fit for purpose. For example, while Leo's is wonderful, the bathroom facilities are limited, and the ideal is to have one bathroom per guest room.

To that end, we are in dialogue with the John James Foundation, long term supporters of PACT, to see whether there is synergy between our organisations. Stay tuned for more information.

MUSIC AT MIDDAY

The Royal Military College Band plays at the Canberra Theatre on a cyclical basis. PC ACT was the 'charity of the day' at a recent performance, raising \$1,780.

Thank you to those volunteers and staff who collected the gold coin donation and helped spread the word of palliative care. Further promotion of PC ACT occurred through an article on Leo's Place in the General Practitioners' Magazine, an article on one of our volunteers in RIOTACT and an interview I held with 2CC.



FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer presented his final report for the 2021-2022 financial year. While there was a variation between the budget estimate and the final year outcome, this related to an unrealised loss on our investments and an underestimation in the cost of running Leo's Place, as there was no previous history. However, I am pleased to report that the organisation is still in a very healthy position in terms of assets vs liabilities.

FUNDRAISING DINNER 2022

This year's fundraising dinner, held on 25 June, was an outstanding success. Feedback from participants was very positive. The food was great, the band had everyone up and dancing, the champagne bar was a buzz, the 300 butterfly bags were sold in the first hour, all our live auction items brought a great return and all the 144 silent auction items sold.

This year we also ran a 'pledge' whereby people could buy one night's accommodation at Leo's Place and this proved very popular. After all costs were taken into account, I am delighted to say we raised slightly over \$192,000 – the best return yet.

In addition, of course, there were 550 people in the room who heard the important message about palliative care. My personal thanks go to everyone who contributed, whether by way of donation, making table decorations, helping set up tables, arranging the silent and live auction prizes or encouraging others to purchase – each contribution made for a very successful night.

As yet we have not set a date for our next event but I encourage everyone to book early once the new date is known.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Palliative Care ACT will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 19 September at the Tom Elvin Centre.

Dr. Louise Mayo AM
President

