

Public Sector Residential Aged Care Leadership Committee

August 2017

The Public Sector Residential Aged Care (PSRAC) Leadership Committee (the Committee) is an initiative that brings together Executive Directors of Nursing to focus on achieving high standards of evidence-based care in residential aged care public sector facilities across Victoria. The Committee has been in operation since 2010 and now has a strong reputation for its role in influencing for improvements in Public Sector Residential aged care.

The membership of the PSRAC Leadership Committee as of August 2017 is:

Name	Position	Organisation
Don McRae	Director of Clinical Services	Wimmera Health Care Group
Cheyne Chambers	Executive Director Residential and Support Services/ Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer	Monash Health
Vicki Farthing	Executive Director of Nursing	Gippsland Southern Health Service
Amanda Edwards	Director of Nursing and Midwifery	Djerriwarrh Health Services
Bernadette Hammond	Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Aged Care	Bairnsdale Regional Health Service
Chloe Keogh	Director of Clinical Services	Kerang District Health Service
Francis Kinnersley	Executive Director of Care Services	Moyne Health Service
Kathleen Fair	Executive Director of Nursing	Castlemaine Health
Katrina Sparrow	Director of Nursing/Manager	Maldon Hospital
Lisa Allen	Director Clinical & Aged Services	Tallangatta Health Service
Lisa Pryor	Director Clinical Services	Beechworth Health Service
Wendy Walters	Warracknabeal Campus Manager, Aged Care	Rural North West Health

This is the second communique for the PSRAC Leadership Committee. This communique summarises the dedicated work of the Committee from February to August 2017.

A description of the Committee as well as the objectives and strategic plan can be found in communique one, via this [link](#).

The Committee is currently involved in a number of projects and activities. These projects are supported by sub-committees that are made up of Committee members. These projects currently include:

Celebrating Aged Care Week
Chair: Vicki Farthing

Celebrating Aged Care Week encourages public sector residential aged care services across the state to hold events that will celebrate and recognise the positive impact that dedicated public health workers make within residential aged care.

This year Celebrating Aged Care Week ran from 14-18 August and was a great success with a number of Victorian public sector residential aged care facilities registering for promotional merchandise and holding internal events.

This year Celebrating Aged Care Week had the support of well-known foodie Maggie Beer as well as radio presenter and media personality, Dennis Walter - two strong ambassadors for the week. The message was widely spread with 121 Broadcast Stations and Syndicates across Victoria promoting Celebrating Aged Care Week and quoting both ambassadors.

The Hon. Martin Foley MLA, Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing also supported this year's campaign by generously providing the Committee with a Ministers address in video form that was posted on the Committees website and promoted through the Committees social media accounts. The video was also distributed to all public sector residential aged care facilities throughout Victoria and shown at the yearly Celebrating Aged Care state-wide event.

This year's state-wide event was again funded and delivered by the Victorian Healthcare Association and co-hosted with the Committee. The 2017 event theme was 'Active for Life' and enforced the importance of a healthy lifestyle as well as giving aged care workers from around the state valuable tips and ideas on improving quality of life for older people living in residential aged care.

Event speakers included, Dr Frances Batchelor, the National Ageing Research Institute, Margaret Alexander, Blue Cross, Dave Colman from the Arts Health Institute, Nicola Abell from Dogs Victoria, Jim Scantsonihas, Fronditha Care and Anna Donaldson from newly founded Lively organisation.

The event was followed by the Celebrating Aged Care Award Ceremony and cocktail function. This is the second year that the awards have been running.

The awards acknowledge and reward aged care workers and volunteers committed to Victoria's aged care sector. This year's awards proved to be extremely popular with 58 nominations across the leadership, passion and volunteering categories.

Winners received their award from Don McRae the Chair of the Committee, Tom Symondson, CEO of the VHA and event sponsor, Steven Strange, CEO, Health Metrics.

The award winners for 2017 were:

- Paul Mark, Wimmera Health Care Group, Aged Care Leadership Award
- Raymond Miller, The Kilmore and District Hospital – Aged Care Volunteer Award
- Susan Ritchie, Gippsland Southern Health Service, Passion for Aged Care Award

More about the awards and 2017 winners/finalists can be found on the Committees website.

Better Care Better Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI)

Chair: Cheyne Chalmers

The Committee and Applied Aged Care Solutions (AACS) have developed a Better Care Better Aged Care Funding Instrument (BCBA) training tool. The training employs the latest available evidence to assist staff caring for people in residential aged care to align assessment, care planning and care delivery with current best practice and the documentary evidence necessary for ACFI claiming.

The BCBA training resources are available free to all PSRACs in Victoria through the Committee's website via a newly developed e-learning portal; the portal provides training courses, resources and training programs for educators.

On completion of the training, participants will be equipped to apply a system that:

- supports high-quality care and quality of life for residents
- improves accountability for care documentation for ACFI claims
- recognises resident needs to develop suitable care strategies
- facilitates ongoing evaluation to continually meet resident needs.

The Committee is also currently planning ten on site two day training sessions throughout Metropolitan and Regional Victoria. These trainings will be facilitated by a practicing physiotherapist and two lead trainers from AACS who specialise in BCBA.

The onsite training will cover:

- Principles and process – robust assessment, evidence gathering, implementation and evaluation steps that lead to better care and ACFI outcomes
- Assessment tools – comprehensive assessment strategies, referral and documentation processes, SMART goals and evidence profiling to use in treatment and care planning interventions
- Interactive learning – opportunities for individual and group activities to apply theory and tools in care planning through:
 - case studies for ADL, Therapy and Behaviour management
 - ACFI checklist and scoring completion from video presentations
- Strategies for ACFI – addressing common mistakes, and using information effectively to support ACFI claims.

Workshops are free of charge and are scheduled to start in November. If you would like to register for a training session, a calendar with training dates and a registration tool will be available via the e-learning portal shortly.

Resident Acuity workforce modelling for Residential Care

Chair: Don McRae

AACS was commissioned by the Committee to undertake the "Strengthening Clinical Governance by using evidence informed methods to determine staffing adequacy in Low Care PSRACs" (Pilot Study).

The Strengthening Clinical Governance in Low Care PSRACs report was scheduled to be complete in February however data collection elements of the report have taken longer than initially expected. The report is currently now in the final stages of completion.

The report will include:

1. A description of the selected sites approach to the model of care and staffing allocations
2. A detailed analysis of the current staffing model and development of an alternative staffing models with a care provision analysis
3. Costing comparisons of the current staffing model and an alternative staffing model
4. Preparation of new rosters based on the acuity staffing model ready for organisational implementation

The Committee has asked AACS to put in a proposal for the next phase of this work which will be to develop a web based tool to assist all PSRACS to implement this rostering model in their own facilities.

Productive workplace

Chair: Vicki Farthing

The Committee is no longer undertaking an expression of interest process for this project.

Instead the Committee engaged with Consultant, Elise Sullivan to deliver the 'Implementing the We Care brand and BCBA initiative' Workshop which was held on 2 June 2017. The purpose of the workshop was to look at current Committee projects and identify possible strategies to implement and embed the work from these projects into everyday business of PSRACs.

For further information, contact:

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