



Dear staff

On Tuesday we implemented a planned transition to Tier 2 in our Acute Respiratory Illness Response Plan after modelling indicated a growing number of acute respiratory illnesses. As part of the move to Tier 2, we have shifted towards virtual meetings and training, whenever feasible. Essential face-to-face training sessions such as OVP, BLS, and ALS will proceed as scheduled.

All staff are strongly encouraged to:

- Continue wearing masks in clinical areas, following [PPE guidelines](#).
- Ensure their flu and COVID vaccinations are up to date, along with annual fit testing.
- Maintain compliance with mandatory training programs.
- Stay home if feeling unwell and promptly inform their line manager of any sick leave via the Smart Leave form on MyHR.
- Consult with their line manager regarding specific requirements outlined in your local workplace under the Acute Respiratory Illness Response Subplan within your directorate.

In addition, visitors will be encouraged to wear masks, sanitise their hands upon entry and exit, and refrain from visiting if they exhibit symptoms of respiratory illness. Masks and hand sanitisers will be available at the entrance to our facility.

### NAIDOC Celebration

On Friday, STARS held a NAIDOC celebration at STARS with Aunty Maroochy Barambah giving the Welcome to Country. We were also entertained by the Torres Strait Islander Wagga Dance Company and the Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal performers.

Thank you to our Cultural Capability Officer Henry Nona for organising this important event.



### Board Member Representative to STARS

I would like to warmly welcome Dr Shea Spierings as the Metro North Board Member representative for

STARS. Dr Spierings is a Research Fellow specialising in First Nations health at The University of Queensland. Dr Spierings is currently a Lead Investigator, and Associate Investigator across a series of projects funded by the Medical Research Futures Fund, Australian Research Council and the Lowitja Institute.

Dr Spierings is an experienced company director holding the role of Deputy Chair for Country to Coast Queensland, which commissions the delivery of primary health services across the Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay and Central Queensland regions to service 900,000 people. He is also a Board Member for Queensland's health promotion agency, Health and Wellbeing Queensland. We look forward to sharing the wonderful work we do here at STARS with the Dr Spiering.



### STARS R U OK? Survey



R U OK? Day occurs on 12 September and the Metro North R U OK? Steering Committee currently have a staff survey in which you can share your ideas and preferences for the celebrations.

If you have any requests for training, merchandise or ambassador suggestions, please [fill out the survey](#) by 10 August.

### Be part of the change – Have Your Say action groups

Since the 2023 Have Your Say survey, there's been a lot of work going on at both our local level and at a Metro North-wide level to address the feedback received. Co-designing new initiatives with you – our people – has been a big focus.

The next round of Metro North action groups listed below are about to kick-off and I strongly encourage you to put your hand up and get involved. Each action group is made up of approximately 10 staff members from across all levels and streams, working together to co-design some really important initiatives.



**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
VALUES IN ACTION

**ACTION PLAN UPDATE**  
IN RESPONSE TO YOUR FEEDBACK, 21 INITIATIVES ARE UNDERWAY. VIA THE ACTION GROUPS, WE'RE CO-DESIGNING THE FUTURE WITH YOU!

**FIRST ROUND OF ACTION GROUPS**

- ✓ 9 workshops completed
- ✓ 6 more workshops scheduled
- ✓ 49 staff members participating from across all streams and locations
- ✓ 7 executive leaders collaborating and endorsing the work
- ✓ Various outcomes/initiatives being finalised

**FOLLOWING ACTION GROUPS KICKING OFF SOON**

- A clear capability pathway
- Metro North-wide mentoring program
- What does 'great support from an organisation' look like?
- Onboarding

**GET INVOLVED! [CLICK HERE](#)**

- A clear capability pathway – setting you up for success
- Metro North-wide mentoring program
- What does 'great support from an organisation' look like?
- Onboarding

This is not only a development and networking opportunity, but a great way to be part of positive culture change and have your say on how things can get better. [Find out more.](#)

### Interprofessional collaboration helps ensure patients' homes are equipment ready

STARS Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation Engineering Centre have come together to create a transportable system that allows OTs to check if various equipment fits into a patient's home. This ensures our patients can return to their homes safely and in a timely manner.

You can read more about what Occupational Therapist Cody, is testing out in the picture, [here](#).



## STARS Olympics

To celebrate the 2024 Olympics and Paralympics, Staff Council and STARS Physiotherapy have created events to encourage patient and staff participation in physical activity and fun.

- Friday 26 of July – Torch relay and Opening Ceremony with Queensland Ballet 2.30pm-3.15pm
- Monday 29 July – 11.00am-12.00pm patient event timed sit to stand in the level 4 ability centre followed by staff event – wheelchair races
- Wednesday 31 July 11.00am-12.00pm patient event slalom races in the level 4 ability centre followed by staff event – ultimate hobby horse dressage
- Friday 2 August – 11.00am-12.00pm patient event basketball shoot out in the level 4 ability centre. Queensland Ballet Olympic themed session
- Monday 5 August – 11.00am-12.00pm patient event bean bag shot put in the level 4 ability centre followed by staff event – one-handed shoelace tying
- Wednesday 7 August – 11.00am-12.00pm patient event box and block test times followed by staff event – Olympic ring consumption
- Friday 9 August – marathon event with closing ceremony with Queensland Ballet 2:30pm-3:15pm



## Staff Forum and Brief the Boss

I have made the decision to hold the Staff Forum every month (rather than fortnightly). The Staff Forum will now be held on the fourth Thursday of every month at 11.00am, with the next Staff Forum scheduled for 22 August. The Staff Forum will alternate with the Brief the Boss event which will be held on the second Thursday of every month. In the event that I am unable to attend, I will endeavour to have another member of the Executive attend in my place. In the event of Tier 2, Brief the Boss will be re-scheduled.

**STARS STAFF BREAKFAST**

FREE

Come and enjoy a **FREE** staff breakfast to say thank you for all your hard work and efforts.

Wednesday 31 July 2024  
6.30am - 8.30am  
(or until the food runs out)  
Level 3, Mezzanine

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STARS STAFF COUNCIL  
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VALUES IN ACTION

## Free staff appreciation brekkie

On Wednesday 31 July we are holding a free staff breakfast from 6.30am-8.30am (or until the food runs out) to show our appreciation of staff's hard work and efforts. There will be the usual breakfast muffins and croissants, including vegetarian and gluten free/vegan options. We hope you can join us for breakfast and a catch-up with your colleagues.

## June Staff Shout Outs

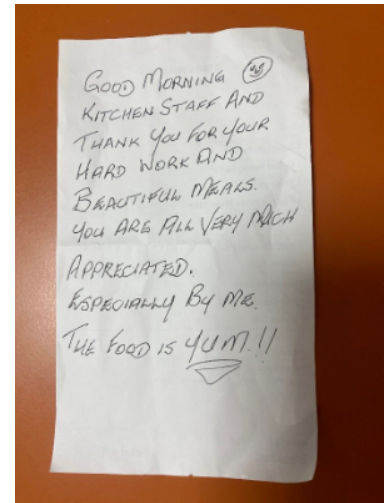
I would like to share the June Staff Shouts – congratulations to all these staff members who have demonstrated Metro North staff values in action: Melissa Rantala, Natasha Roberts, Luke Prandolini, Blair Carroll, Gracie Hankins, Nicholas Rukin, Hudson Knight, Callum (PSO 5A), Felicidad Kramzer (Connie), Sophie Wade and Kylie Schoeffler, Crystal Cooper, Glenn McDonald, Kylie Short, Claudette Duello and SEALS.

If you would like to give a staff member or team a Shout Out for July, you can nominate them [here](#).



### Patient compliment

I would like to share a lovely note received recently from one of our 6B patients, complimenting the Food Services staff on their hard work and appetising food. We all know how important food can be to a person's hospital stay and our Food Services team do a wonderful job.



Kind regards

Dale Dally-Watkins