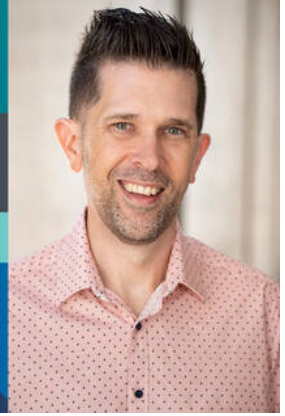


## MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING DIRECTOR METRO NORTH MENTAL HEALTH

Metro North Health

Liam Wishart



Dear staff,

I would firstly like to thank you everyone who has been working to accommodate the extra demands that are being placed on our services. Please take care of yourselves during this time.

This week is World Wellbeing Week which is a timely reminder to take a look at how we can improve the wellbeing in our workplace. To connect with your team, colleagues and the wider Metro North Health community try the [60 second farewell](#). You can also familiarise yourself with our current [wellbeing resources](#) and what services are available to you if you need some extra support, like our [Peer Responder Program](#) and [Staff Psychology service](#).



Ask someone, [R U OK?](#) This is a question we should be asking all year round, not just in September.

### Respiratory illnesses

Just a reminder that we are currently on Tier 1 of the Acute Respiratory Illness Plan. All staff are encouraged to:

- wear masks in line with the PPE guidelines ([click here for more information](#))
- ensure flu and COVID vaccinations and annual fit testing are up to date
- stay home if you're unwell, let your line manager know and submit your leave form as soon as possible via the Smart Leave form on MyHR
- check in with your line manager for any other requirements in your local workplace under your directorate Acute Respiratory Illness Response Subplan.

### Vidcast

On Wednesday I was joined by Chief Operating Officer Jane Hancock to discuss the enhancements happening across the Mental Health services. These enhancements are helping us to deliver our services to consumers efficiently and at a time and location that is appropriate for them. Mental Health project leads Louise Durant and Becci Mann outlined a number of new services including the Acute Mobile Crisis Assessment and Response Team (AMCART), Mental Health Hospital in the Home and the Crisis Stabilisation Facility at TPCH. Louise and Becci also discussed how services have been co-designed to ensure they will meet the needs of our consumers and their families, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers. Thank you to everyone who joined the vidcast and provided feedback and asked questions.

### Health Equity Showcase

On Thursday, Louise Durant was invited to present at the biannual Health Equity Showcase. The showcase highlights exceptional services delivered with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as part of the [Metro North Health Equity Strategy 2022-2025](#). Louise discussed the Crisis Reform Strategy work and co-design of the Crisis Stabilisation Facility, and how it works towards meeting the Key Performance Areas of the Strategy. To read more about *Our Journey Towards Health Equity* and to highlight any activities happening in your own areas, please get in contact with Chris Henaway or myself as leads for the Health Equity portfolio.

### Upcoming virtual mental health registrar showcase

A reminder about our upcoming virtual mental health registrar showcase, which is taking place on **Thursday 11 July, 5.30-6.30pm AEST**. The showcase will provide current and prospective Metro North psychiatric registrars with information about opportunities to work in the Mental Health Directorate. Metro North Mental Health Executive Director Dr Kathryn Turner will provide an overview, followed by representatives from RBWH, TPCH and Redcliffe-Caboolture, who will discuss facility specific opportunities. I encourage you to distribute the event details via your professional networks. Those interested can [register for the event here](#). Registered participants will be sent a Teams link prior to the event.

**Metro North Health**

# Virtual Mental Health Registrar Showcase

**Thursday 11 July 2024 | 5.30-6.30pm AEST**

**REGISTER NOW:** [metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/careers/medical-careers/mental-health](https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/careers/medical-careers/mental-health)

## Handcrafted 'belonging baskets' donation

It was lovely to hear about a recent donation from a community group from Tweed Heads to The Prince Charles Hospital's mental health units. The Fabric Floopie Patchwork and Needlework Group crafted 56 patchwork fabric 'belonging baskets' for consumers to brighten their rooms and put small belongings in.

Senior Carer Peer Coordinator Tricia Carter explained how this seemingly small gesture makes such a difference.

*"Receiving something handcrafted from a person you don't know is especially significant – it reinforces to patients that people care about them".*

Thank you to the Fabric Floopie Patchwork and Needlework Group and to The Common Good for coordinating the basket donation.

You can read more about the 'belonging baskets' [here](#).



## Staff Shout Outs

Staff Shout Outs provide an opportunity to acknowledge and thank a colleague or team who embody our organisational values – those who are a positive influence, who collaborate in new and unique ways, or who go above and beyond expectations.

While those nominated receive a certificate, I thought it would also be nice to start sharing the monthly Staff Shout Outs in the Executive Director message. A big congratulations to the following staff who received a staff nomination for the month of May: Darelle Ahchay from TPCH and Joshua Heard from RedCab.

If you would like to give an individual or team a Staff Shout Out, you can [submit it here](#).

This is my last message as Acting Executive Director with Dr Kathryn Turner returning next Wednesday, July 3. I would like to extend my thanks to everyone for the support they've provided during my time in the Acting role.



Kind regards

Liam