



Dear team,

While last week's message was filled with many important milestones there were also a lot of highlights and amazing celebrations across the directorate which I also need to share.

Thank you to everyone behind the scenes who have taken the time to organise and coordinate a number of fabulous events and activities for our residents, volunteers, elders, patients and broader community.

A magical celebration - Halwyn Centre Midsummer Ball



I had the pleasure of attending The Halwyn Centre Midsummer Ball which was absolutely spectacular. This amazing formal event, hosted by the residents of Halwyn, saw around 100 people attend.

It was a magical night where all residents were individually presented to the guests by being escorted along a red carpet surrounded by bollards and entering the function under a large balloon arch.

All the residents were formally dressed - the ladies in lovely ball gowns and hair accessories, and the gentlemen in smart black pants, white shirts and bow ties.

The attending violinist serenaded all attendees throughout the evening which created a fun, lively feel, with residents enjoying the wheelchair dancing throughout the evening.

The ball was held on the newly refurbished level 3 and balcony areas and was illuminated with an array of beautiful fairy lights and tea candles to create a wonderful and glamorous atmosphere.

The evening was described by some of the guests as 'magical', 'highly emotional', 'bringing so much

pride' and 'delightfully fun'.

The following morning after the event, the Halwyn Centre received a phone call from one of the parents who attended and following is what she had to say:

"I am still emotional from the evening before. The ball was fabulous. I was very moved, and I am so grateful to the Halwyn Centre staff for providing our children with an experience that they would not normally have."

A massive thank you to the staff of Halwyn for putting on such a spectacular event for the residents.

Please view the short video of the evening

at: https://www.canva.com/design/DAGYSwp8EP8/0_sNN0J3oX3hpiNI04XA3g/watch



Yarning circle annual celebration

Last week, we acknowledged the Yarning Circle with a Christmas lunch and an open yarn, as well offering a small gift and a certificate as token of our appreciation.

The lunch was well attended by our regular members who are committed to the Yarning Circle each month.

COH is extremely appreciative of the Elders who drive the agenda and for their unwavering support and advocacy for improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.



Next year, there will be an enhanced focus on increasing the promotion and membership of the existing COH Yarning Circle as well as establishing new regular Yarning Circles for Men's Business and Yarning Circles for parents of young people with intellectual and/or physical disabilities.

Thank you to the great team here in COH who work tirelessly in the background to coordinate the Yarning Circle.

Please enjoy the [short milestone video from the Yarning Circle](#).



Celebrating Volunteer contributions

Each year, we take time out to acknowledge the great work of our volunteers as part of International Volunteers Day,

This celebration was also done alongside our Volunteers and Consumer Program Christmas Party.

The time our volunteers give to our services, staff, residents and patients is truly inspiring.

Throughout the year, I get to read all of the compliments and the volunteers often feature for the selfless time they spend with our patients and residents.

They provide friendship and a great deal of support to patients and staff, and for that I am truly grateful.

Thank you!





Aspley simulation brings great insights

As part of the celebrations for International Day of People with a Disability, the Aspley Community Health Centre got involved in simulating difficulties some of our clients and co-workers experience.

These practical simulations provided an opportunity to think about and discuss what we can do in our teams to adjust our practice to support not only clients but our colleagues in the COH workforce with disabilities.

The feedback was very positive by all who participated. A big shout out to Nurse Navigators Param and Dale who assisted with the simulations and engaged staff.

Oral Health sleigh does the rounds

The MNOHS sleigh was busy again recently as it travelled up the highway collecting donations for the annual Christmas Charity collection from the directorate, GPOHS, COHS and CAOHS.

This year the sleigh's final destination was the Centre Against Domestic Abuse.

Thanks to Geoff from the Caboolture Satellite Hospital Security team for assisting with repacking of the sleigh to ensure all the donations fitted!

The staff from the Centre Against Domestic Abuse were truly humbled by the generosity.

Thanks to everyone who donated – your donations will make Christmas a bit brighter for those in our community doing it tough.



Compliment - Many great smiles at Caboolture

Caboolture Dental Clinic

"My elderly mum recently visited the oral health clinic on several occasions to get her new dentures. I cannot thank the staff and dentist, as well as the dental assistants for the care my mother received during her appointments at this clinic.

"The level of care was above and beyond my expectations and I would highly recommend them."

AND

"The respect, understanding and compassionate kindness that was given to me was outstanding.

"I am very anxious about dental appointments and can honestly say today's appointment was so great. If I was lucky enough to always have these two women as my dental practitioners, I feel as though my anxiety would quickly disappear.

"It's great being able to experience someone who is passionate about their job. I hope this feedback gets back to Poorna and Sue as they deserve to be reminded about how appreciated they are.

"I want to say a massive thank you to Simon and Kim at the Caboolture Satellite Hospital for literally changing my life.

"Every visit I had they made me feel very comfortable and always explained everything they were going to do to me during my visits. They were absolutely wonderful, professional and they both should be praised for their fantastic work.

"I would definitely recommend them both to anyone who's seeking these services. I'm so happy."

A final shout out!

For physiotherapy cadet Grace Newton, getting practical hands-on patient care experience has been the best way to learn and provided an invaluable insight into her career pathway.

Grace has just finished a part-time physiotherapy cadetship at the Zillmere Residential Transition Care Program (RTCP).

"You feel like you're making such a difference to people's lives. Working closely with the elderly allows you to get great experience early on in your career," she said.

[Read more ...](#)



Kind regards,

Glynis Schultz
Executive Director
Community and Oral Health

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our facilities are built. We also pay respect and acknowledge Elders past, present and the future.

Metro North
Health



Queensland
Government



Produced by the Metro North Communication Directorate