

# STARS Staff Council

## Staff Update

July 2025

Hello STARS!

We wanted to provide a short update from the Staff Council now that we have reached the halfway mark of 2025.

For staff new to STARS, the purpose of the STARS Staff Council is to be a multidisciplinary, strategic body providing advisory, leadership and advocacy roles on behalf of the staff across a variety of issues including but not limited to; the delivery of patient care, the wellbeing of staff, and culture at STARS.

STARS Staff Council Members come from a variety of roles, both clinical and non-clinical. You can view the current members and why they joined the Staff Council [here](#).

If you are interested in joining the Staff Council, please email through a one-page (max) response describing why you would like to join the STARS Staff Council to [STARS\\_SC@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:STARS_SC@health.qld.gov.au).

Please see the [Terms of Reference](#) for more information.

### **Advocacy role**

It has been a busy year to date at STARS and the Staff Council have been involved in a number of projects including the Have Your Say survey Metro North Working Group, patient flow, volunteers, wayfinding, the Metro North Strategic Plan review and RBWH Foundation Giving Day. In January, the Staff Council co-hosted the new Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Tim Nicholls during a visit to STARS.

We continue to advocate at a facility level around issues such as the spinal business case for change, staff amenities, staff safety and bicycle and scooter parking.

### **Outgoing members**

We would like to give a big thank you to some of our outgoing Staff Council members for their contributions: Brooke Gardner, Ivan Toloza and Hayley Mullins (nee Ford).

### **TC Alfred thank you BBQ**

In March, the Staff Council put on a BBQ as a thank you to everyone's efforts during Tropical Cyclone Alfred. The BBQ was well received by staff, and we served up a whopping 55 kilograms of sausages! Thank you to everyone who helped organise the event and serve food on the day.



*Cultural Capability Officer Henry Nona and Staff Psychologist Allison Welch serving at the staff thank you BBQ.*

### Winter warmer

Last month, the STARS Staff Council, in collaboration with the RBWH Foundation, provided Winter Warmer packs to STARS staff. The packs included a hot chocolate sachet and a kit kat and were distributed to approximately 750 staff members. We hope those staff who received a Winter Warmer pack enjoyed their treat in the cooler weather we have been having.



*Staff Council Co-Chair Benjamin Frost, Shona Clayton from the RBWH Foundation and Katie Frost packing the Winter Warmer packs.*

### T Dot vouchers

We recently received a generous donation of drink vouchers from T Dot (new drinks retailer inside Sushi Yado) to be provided to staff as a thank you for their hard work and dedication. The Staff Council have distributed a number of the vouchers amongst the teams, as well as reserving some for new staff members to receive on their induction to STARS. We thank T Dot for their support.

### Polo shirts

We are in the final stages of organising STARS staff polo shirts. Staff will be able to order a polo shirt with STARS specific Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artwork design. As the shirts are a custom order, staff will need to pay at the time of order. Look out for further details in upcoming staff bulletins.

### STEPtember challenge coming up

All STARS staff are encouraged to participate in the upcoming STARS STEPtember challenge via 10,000 Steps. A 100K step bonus will be applied to teams that have 5-6 members **AND** 3 different professions - Medical inc VMO, Nursing, Health Practitioner, Health Clinical Assistants, Professional Clinical (including Dental), Professional Non-Clinical, Operational, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce, Managerial and Clinical.

Start thinking about your STEPtember teams and look out for more details in an upcoming staff bulletin.



## **Feedback**

The Staff Council regularly collects feedback on what could be improved at STARS, as well as what we are doing well. Some of the improvements that have been actioned:

*Cheaper meal options* – We receive this feedback regularly and the Staff Council have been advocating for some time for more affordable meal options. The Botanist Kitchen and Sushi Yado are now offering several Friday meal specials for under \$10.

*Cheaper parking* - While parking prices are set by the privately operated car parks, we advocated for the STARS car park provider to introduce the first 15 minutes of parking for free. This hopefully allows those picking up or dropping off patients an alternative to using the porte cochere, which is often very busy.

## **Patient and staff advocacy**

We want to hear about all the little things that could be done to improve the experience of patients and staff. Equally, if you have any concerns that you feel aren't being addressed appropriately we want to hear about them. Please get in touch via our email address ([STARS\\_SC@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:STARS_SC@health.qld.gov.au)), reach out to your [local staff council member](#), or complete our feedback form - [find it here](#).

Kind regards,

Oliver Mason and Benjamin Frost

Staff Council Co-Chairs.