



Summary:

- Our Connecting Care Champions at Halwyn
- Nominations open for the COH Staff Excellence Awards 2025
- Welcome to the new peer responder program coordinator
- Upcoming SET Forum at North Lakes
- Recent aged care and disability forums
- Final Shout Out - Community Transition Care Team

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear team,

I celebrated our final monthly COH Connecting Care Champions at the Halwyn Centre yesterday. During this Hi5 in 25! event, staff highlighted some of the important things they enjoyed about working at the centre.

- It is a second home
- The teamwork and the staff
- The worthwhile work caring for residents
- Getting to know and spend time with the residents
- The fulfilling nature of the role and gaining the trust of residents.

Halwyn Connecting Care Champions

Hemali Patel, Assistant in Nursing (Two nominations)

"For her energy and enthusiasm in bringing joy, fun and connection to our residents. As the activity coordinator for Halwyn, she shows pride in her work and gains so much enjoyment when the residents are having fun."

Wendy Bryett, Associate Nurse Unit Manager

"For being a wonderful advocate and supporter of the clinical team in practicing to the top of their scope and for leading the clinical team to provide excellence in disability care."

Tessa Crawford, Clinical Assistant, Allied Health

"For being the musical heartbeat of the allied health gym space. She takes time with each of the residents to discover what music they respond with, to ensure activity in the space is comfortable and personalised."

Amanda Barnett, Clinical Educator and Dietitian

"For her beautiful 'food-themed' outfits and being on hand to plan fun activities like green food for St Patrick's day or deconstructed pies for State of Origin celebrations."

Laxmi Acharya, Acting Nurse Unit Manager

"Leading the nursing team through many changes such as the Halwyn refurbishment, introduction of the new IWFM system and changes to the nursing staffing structure."



NOMINATIONS OPEN

Community and Oral Health

Staff Excellence Awards 2025

Recognise your peers or a team for excellence across eight award categories.

Nominations close Tuesday, 19 August 2025.

CLICK to find out more.

Presenting Partner:
QSuper
Part of Australian Retirement Trust



Welcome to the new peer responder coordinator

Welcome to Bridgette Williams who joined Metro North Health recently as the Culture, Engagement and Wellbeing Coordinator for COH.

She is responsible for coordinating the Peer Responder program within COH.

At COH, we have almost 30 Peer Responders and we would love to see this grow, with one Peer Responder in all of our service lines.

If you're interested in supporting your colleagues by becoming a Peer Responder - [find out more](#) about the process and complete an Expression of Interest.

To view the COH Peer Responders visit [QHEPS](#).



SET Staff Forum

Thursday 7 August 2025

11:30am – 12:30 pm

North Lakes Health Precinct
(or join on Teams)

Meet with Chief Executive Jackie Hanson and
members of the Metro North Senior Executive Team

Some important activities - Aged Care and Disability Forums

There were some very important forums held recently to connect and shape the way we look at aged care and disability care.

The **Interagency Forum on Improving Aged Care Pathways** saw a range of stakeholders come together from Metro North Health, the Commonwealth Government, Brisbane North PHN, Residential Aged Care providers, Home Care Package providers, and aged care and advocacy organisations.

The forum examined delays in the discharge of older people from hospital, identified both systemic and operational barriers, and collaboratively developed solutions to improve patient flow and access to appropriate care pathways for older people.

COH also celebrated Disability Pride Month by hosting the **Brisbane North Connecting Disability Health Forum – Julian's Key Health Passport**.

Metro North staff and disability service providers were invited along to hear about Julian's Key Health Passport and how it can benefit their consumers and improve communication, health and well-being.

We had plenty of information stalls at the event which provided a great opportunity to network and connect with different healthcare professionals and disability services providers.





Final shout out - Community Transition Care Team

Another great compliment which was sent to the Health Minister and passed onto Metro North.

"I'm an 85-year-old retired banker who has recently experienced a range of services provided by Queensland Health and COH."

"I suffered, what was later diagnosed as an acute left-brain stroke. I summoned the ambulance to my home and was attended to by two very professional young women who transported me to The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH). I regard my experience with TPCH as something extraordinary."

"It was arranged on discharge for me to pass into the care of the Community Transition Care Program team at Brighton who supported me in-home for some eight weeks while I coped with the mental and physical demands of living by myself in my post-stroke condition."

"From case manager Kira Perry and clinical nurse Laura Coombe to the nurses, physios and social workers who have looked out for me in these past few weeks, the care has been exemplary."

"I think you will read from all of this that I am stunned with the extraordinary care I have been provided by people who do so with such supportive good humour and encouragement every day."

Glynis Schultz
Executive Director



Metro North Health



We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action
Respect | Integrity | Compassion | High Performance | Teamwork



Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

Metro North Health's vision

Creating healthier futures together—where
innovation and research meets compassionate
care and community voices shape our services.



**Queensland
Government**

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