

Metro North Health

Message from the

Acting Executive Director Community and Oral Health

Jayne Stevenson



Summary:

- Chermside, Nundah and Stafford Connecting Care Champions
- Bringing the best version of ourselves to work
- Nominate a Sandgate, Bracken Ridge or Strathpine Connecting Care Champion
- Fit Testing - Singh Thattha beard wrap technique
- Anzac Day Sunset Service
- Final Shoutout - Aged Care Assessment Team

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4+ min



For: Information

Dear Team,

Following on from our visits to a number of COH facilities over the last few months we headed to Chermside this week to crown our most recent COH Connecting Care Champions as part of the *In the Mix for 26!* roadshow.

Thank you to all the staff who took the time to nominate these deserving winners.

Stafford Dental Clinic

Asha Thomas, Administration Officer

"For her outstanding contribution since joining the team. Asha works exceptionally well within the team, maintaining a consistently positive attitude and is always willing to assist others."

Nundah Community Health Centre

Fiona Wilson and Anna Grasso, Administration Officers

"It is in the DNA of these staff members to do everything they can to ensure care is accessed by our consumers. They are always available and active in problem solving a multitude of problems and challenges that present daily at a busy Community Health Centre."

Chermside Community Health Centre

Genevieve French, Dietitian, Diabetes Service

"Her commitment to her clients is not only on display through her dedication to furthering her knowledge in diabetes management, but also in the way she supports all members of the team in helping clients achieve their goals."

Zoe Bolton, Clinical Nurse, Diabetes Service

"Zoe is a committed clinician who is extremely patient focused. Zoe regularly goes above and beyond, particularly with assisting clients with complex health and social needs. She works tirelessly to ensure clients and carers receive quality care and up-to-date knowledge, in sometimes difficult situations."

Laura Kenny, Clinical Nurse, Diabetes Service

"Laura not only displays excellent care for our clients, her knowledge and ongoing commitment to her profession is self-evident with her current nurse practitioner studies. She manages the fast-paced technical environment in diabetes exceptionally well which assists her clients achieve their goals."

Andrew Grice, Allied Health Assistant, PACS

"Andrew consistently responds to both team and client needs, enabling clinical disciplines to focus their efforts on high-risk clients. He demonstrates a strong commitment to innovation, most notably through implementing a QR code system for documenting loaned equipment."

Chris Abbey, Physiotherapist, PACS

"Chris consistently demonstrates a high-level of competence, professionalism and commitment to client care. He approaches his clinical practice with diligence and compassion, ensuring high-quality care for clients and meaningful contributions to the multidisciplinary team."

Anthony Walsh, Occupational Therapist, CBRT

"Anthony is a very experienced rehabilitation clinician who has a very strong focus on client centred interventions and strongly advocates for best practice care for all clients of CBRT. His ability to meet clients where they are is exceptional."



Connecting Care CHAMPIONS

In the MIX for 26!



Bringing the best version of ourselves to work

As part of our *In the Mix for 26!* roadshows we asked Chermside and Nundah staff how they manage wellbeing and brought their best possible self to work.

The most memorable tips included:

- Having a 'Nuddle' - A Nundah team safe space or huddle to connect and make sure everyone is alright
- Knowing that each day is different
- Focusing on the wins and successes
- Making sure everyone has equal access to the things they need to deliver care
- Helping those that feel low or who are not feeling well
- Looking out for others and being responsible.

Nominate a Sandgate, Bracken Ridge or Strathpine Connecting Care Champion

The COH executive and members of the staff council will be visiting a site close to Pine Rivers to connect, share information and recognise our staff as part of the COH Connecting Care Champion awards.

Award nominations will be open to the following sites:

- **Pine Rivers Community Health Centre**
- **Sandgate Dental Clinic**
- **Bracken Ridge and Strathpine School Dental Clinics.**

Please take the time to nominate a person from one of these sites for the COH Connecting Care Champion award by emailing COH-Communications@health.qld.gov.au

We are looking for those champions who are the quiet achievers, the staff who connect and enhance the team and care provided, and who go above and beyond to support our residents, patients and families.

And we only need 50 or 100 words unless there is too much to say about the nominated champion! So, feel free to word smith and add a bit of colour to your nominations.

Nominations close Tuesday 12 May!

The visit will occur on **Tuesday 19 May** and **via TEAMS**.

Fit Testing - Singh Thattha beard wrap technique

The Deputy Director General has approved the implementation of the Singh Thattha Beard Wrap Technique for Fit Testing for staff who are unable to remove their facial hair due to medical, cultural or religious reasons.

This project is being conducted by Julie Bryant from CSDS and any enquiries about the project are to be sent to Julie via her email Julie.Bryant@health.qld.gov.au

Staff can express their interest in the project by viewing the details in the [Project Flyer](#).

Singh Thatha Beard Wrap Project

The Queensland Health workforce reflects a diverse range of cultural and religious identities. As industry evolves and new evidence based methods become available, it is important that practices remain contemporary.



The Queensland Health Safety and Wellbeing Unit have partnered with the Clinical Skills Development Service (CSDS) to commence a phased implementation of the Singh Thatha - beard wrap technique. This technique involves a long elastic band placed over the facial hair and tied on the top of the head. The elastic band creates an "artificial skin" layer to create a P2N95 respirator seal.

BEARD COVER TECHNIQUE
ELASTIC BAND

This video content cannot be loaded from Beard Cover Technique by [Julie Bryant/Queensland Government](#) on YouTube. [Beard Cover Technique - Beardwrap](#)

Persons who will be eligible to participate in the project include:

- Queensland Health clinical employees of any discipline requiring respiratory protection for airborne biohazards at P2N95 PFR level, with managerial approval to participate.
- External tertiary education students of any discipline while on clinical placement within defined Queensland Health Hospital and Health Services (HHS) facilities requiring respiratory protection for airborne biohazards at P2N95 PFR level.
- Healthcare workers who are unable to remove facial hair for genuine medical, cultural, or religious reasons.
- Healthcare workers attending a Queensland Health designated fit testing service for quantitative fit testing using the Singh Thatha beard wrap technique.

Queensland Health would like to invite interested employees and students to apply via [CSDS Fit Testing Beard cover technique](#) or scan this QR code.



The Project Lead, Julie Bryant, CSDS, will review the expression of interests from staff and students and provide further details to selected participants. Should you have any questions regarding this technique or phased implementation, please email [Queensland Health Beard Wrap Project](#).

Anzac Day Sunset Service

There were many Anzac Day services and activities delivered across COH last weekend.

I want to thank everyone for their combined efforts for making it a very special day for our residents and patients.

Thank you to those staff that also participated in the sunset service that was held at the Brighton Health Campus RAAF Memorial.

All staff were proud to take part on behalf of Brighton Health Campus and the service was a meaningful opportunity to reflect and pay respects.

COH representatives who laid a wreath were:

- Josh Mallet
- Gannet House resident Fran Scully, who was aided by Volunteer Robyn Whip.

A 3rd wreath was laid at the flags between Dolphin House and Ebbside House by Security Officer Tony Bradford.



Final Shout Out - Aged Care Assessment Team

"The whole experience with the Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) has been wonderful. The lady who we first spoke to was very kind and helpful when making the appointment for this assessment.

"You have been very kind, empathetic to our needs and made the process very easy. We were hesitant in going ahead with this as we like to do for ourselves as much as we can. You have put us at ease, listened to our stories and made us feel as though we are doing the right thing.

"Together we have navigated this process and feel positive about the outcome. Thank you to everyone at ACAT for the support and encouraging words and most of all for listening and being empathetic to our needs and understanding our situation."

Jayne Stevenson
Acting Executive Director



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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