

Metro North Health

Message from the

# Acting Executive Director Community and Oral Health

Jayne Stevenson



## Summary:

- 19th Avenue transition
- Sandgate, Bracken Ridge and Strathpine Connecting Care Champions
- Bringing the best version of ourselves to work
- Nominate a Zillmere or Aspley Connecting Care Champion
- Final Shoutout - Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Month lunchbox session

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**Audience:** All staff



**Read time:** 5+ min



**For:** Information

Dear Team,

I would like to begin with an update regarding the 19th Avenue building on the Brighton Health Campus being transitioned back to a clinical ward, enabling the release of 16 beds back into the system. This is a positive step in supporting current demand.

I would like to sincerely thank the teams currently based at 19th Avenue for their flexibility and agility in working with us to identify alternate accommodation across a number of COH facilities. Your collaboration has been critical in enabling this transition.

Work is now underway to rapidly develop the model of care for this space. At this stage, planning is focused on establishing a Cognitive Care Unit for the Older Person.

In parallel, we are progressing plans to create dedicated sub-acute palliative care beds within existing Brighton Health Campus bed stock to support access for our Community Palliative Care Service. Further updates will be shared as planning progresses.

Over the past month, I have appreciated the opportunity to act in the Executive Director role and to work closely with many of you across our services. I would also like to thank you for your ongoing support during this period. Glynis will return on Monday, 25 May following her well deserved leave.

This week, I had the pleasure of connecting with staff at Sandgate Dental Clinic to recognise our most recent COH Connecting Care Champions as part of a fun *In the Mix for 26!* event.

At the online awards ceremony, we also acknowledged staff from Bracken Ridge Dental Clinic, Pine Rivers Community Health Centre, Strathpine Dental Clinic and Sandgate Dental Clinic.

Our recent COH Connecting Care Champions include:

### Bracken Ridge Dental Clinic

**Dr. Milini Koshy, Dentist, School Dental Service**

"For always showing kindness, patience and respect to patients and families. She takes time to listen, explain treatments clearly and support patients who feel nervous."

**Michelle Reynolds, Advanced Oral Health Therapist, School Dental Service**

"As a manager within the School Dental Service, she leads with kindness, professionalism and genuine care, always making time to support staff, encourage collaboration and foster a positive team culture."

**Sara Gunnarsdottir, Oral Health Therapist**

"Sara is very calm and professional. She provides our young patients with excellent clinical and patient management skills to make them feel safe and comfortable. Many kids now want to see her again as they have no fear of dental treatments!"

### Pine Rivers Community Health Centre

**Jacqueline Brown, Administrative Officer**

"For going above and beyond with patients, community members and other staff. She is always happy to support others, share information and she lifts the mood of everyone she is around."

### Strathpine Dental Clinic

**Mel Worth, Dental Assistant**

"For being a valuable asset to the whole team and providing great support above and beyond her role."

**Geneane Lewis, Dental Assistant**

"For providing exceptional clinical and administrative support and helping out the extended team."

**Letitia Sharp, Dental Assistant**

"For proactively making sure that we have enough stock and packs made for the School Varnish Program visits, which can see up to 250 children in a week."

**Khoa Nguyen, Dental Assistant**

"For his outstanding efforts supporting staff, patients, parents and out services."

### Sandgate Dental Clinic

**Minh Lee, Dental Technician Advanced / Dental Lab Manager (3 Nominations)**

"For bringing our team closer by organising events outside of work hours and creating



opportunities to get us all involved during lunch time competitions where we all bring in food to share with a different theme every time.

"For his positive attitude, teamwork and willingness to support others make a real difference every day."

**Renee Paterson, Administrative Officer**

"For providing incredible support and guidance while training others. She is patient, encouraging and always willing to share her knowledge."

**Leah Frendon, Senior Dental Assistant (2 Nominations)**

"For her outstanding dedication and hard work. She consistently goes above and beyond, delivering high-quality results while supporting teammates with professionalism and positivity."

**Senior Group of Dental Clinicians, Victoria Lissett, Cindy Wang and Zoe Johnston**

"For continuously treating patients with compassion and helping each person to the best of their ability. The team keeps on with giving individualised attention and treatment."

**Tricia Perret, Dental Technician**

"For being the lab technician "Queen" since 1995 and connecting in kindness and with humour, not only in the lab environment but within the whole clinic!"



# 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 Sandgate, Strathpine and Bracken Ridge how they manage wellbeing and brought their best possible self to work.

The most memorable tips included:

- Creating some fun at work with some great events or cooking challenges like the Van the Iron Chef: Sandgate Retro Food-Off!
- Going down to the foreshore
- Taking the dog for a walk before work
- Listening to music before you get to work
- Looking out for others and being responsible.



### Nominate a Zillmere or Aspley Connecting Care Champion

The COH executive and members of the staff council will be visiting either Aspley or Zillmere 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:

- Zillmere Transition Care Program
- Aspley Community Health Centre.

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](mailto: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 2 June!**

### Final Shout Out - Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Month lunchbox session

During Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) Awareness Month this May, our COH Clinical Council and Social Work Service are hosting a lunchbox session online to share information and resources about DFV.

As part of our ongoing COH commitment to *Keeping Everyone Safe*, we invite all staff to join us to hear about resources and supports available to foster the safe, informed and supportive workplace we all value.

**Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Month lunchbox session**

Thursday, 28 May

12.00 - 1.00 pm

[Microsoft Teams Link](#)

**Jayne Stevenson**  
**Acting 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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