

Executive Director STARS

Dale Dally-Watkins



Summary:

- Giving Day wrap-up
- Metro North Research Excellence Awards
- Grad Certificate pitch panel
- Quality of Care Report
- Staff Shout Outs
- Patient compliment

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear Colleagues,

On Wednesday, the RBWH Foundation held their annual Giving Day to raise funds for patient care and research projects across RBWH, STARS and the many Institutes and Centres in the Herston Health Precinct. The final amount is still being tallied, but has exceeded the target of \$750,000, a wonderful achievement!

We welcomed Winter Paralympian Georgia Gunew, who met with staff and patients in the Level 4 rehabilitation gym. Staff and visitors were entertained in the food court by a DJ and a ball toss game hosted by Qld Red's women's players. Our very own Tenealle Fasala also attended with her fellow Australian water polo players. Congratulations to Emma Driver and Level 7 for their bake sale fundraiser which raised \$965.

Thank you to everyone who supported Giving Day this year.



Metro North Research Excellence Award Finalists

I'm pleased to announce that our staff are amongst the finalists in this year's Metro North Research Excellence Awards. Congratulations to our two co-located university research centres, Queensland Aphasia Research Centre and RECOVER Injury Research Centre for being part of the nomination, 'Transforming person-centred care through quality consumer and community involvement in research', a finalist in the Partnering with Consumer Award. Congratulations also to Natasha Roberts who is a finalist in both the Professor Joan Webster Nursing and Midwifery and Rising Star Award. Well done.

You can read more about the finalists' research [here](#). The award ceremony will take place on 30 July 2026 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Graduate Certificate pitch panel 2026

Last week I attended the Graduate Certificate in Health Services Innovation pitch panel to see presentations from Bei Sun (Issy) and Kate Kempthorne. I am incredibly proud of the staff across our service who have embraced the Grad Cert program, demonstrating a deep commitment to improving care for our patients and community.

Since the program's inception, STARS has been an active supporter with staff engaged in every cohort. These change leaders have invested significant time and effort to build capability in leadership, implementation science, and health economics, translating evidence into practical, scalable improvements.



Their willingness to step forward, challenge the status quo, and contribute to system-level change reflects the very best of our Metro North values and strengthens our collective ability to deliver high-quality, future-focused healthcare.

Quality of Care report

I am pleased to share that the Metro North Quality of Care Snapshot 2025 is now available on [QHEPS](#). This report showcases initiatives and services that contribute to high quality care outcomes and experiences for our patients and community. It includes SENSE therapy for people with sensory impairment after a stroke, artwork additions for culturally safe spaces, introduction of the YAG laser procedure, new referral process for cataract surgery and a deterioration alert in virtual emergency care.

Click the image to the right to learn more about these and other initiatives.



Staff Shout Outs

Congratulations to staff and teams who were nominated for a Metro North Staff Shout Out in May: including: Bei Sun (Issy), Benjamin Frost, Caleb Tongia, Ruth Unwin and the PSO team, Connor Daly, Greg Foley, Crystal Cooper, Daniel Innes, Matthew Dally-Watkins, Gaelyn Garnett, Ke-Sandra Layton-De Silva, Lucy Ford, Natasha Roberts, Nathan Costin, Ruth King, Sarah Caffery, Sharni Webster, Vikki Goldup, Zirafeta Balic (Zana), Nursing staff (5B), Procedural Outpatients Admin, STARS Nurse Education Team, POS team on level 4 and the Scanning Unit Team.



If you would like to give a colleague a Staff Shout Out for the month of June, you can do so [here](#).

Patient compliment

This week's compliment is from a surgical patient who had high praise for our wonderful physiotherapy team.

"I would like to thank the physiotherapists for their friendly and professional treatment. The clinic ran on time, and my physiotherapy session left me confident in following my exercises. Their knowledge is aiding me in a full and fast recovery. The staff being positive and happy is great to be around when recovering from surgery and pain".

Kind Regards

Dale Dally-Watkins
Executive Director
STARS



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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