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Summary:

- Men's Health Expo
- A deeper look at the Older Persons Emergency Network
- TAFE Urapun nurses welcomed across COH and Redcliffe
- Tree of Possibilities
- Final Shout Out - Haloween Celebration

Message feedback

Audience: All staff | Read time: 4 min | For: Information

Dear Team,



Each year, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health team deliver some extremely engaging and worthwhile community and staff events.

This year, the team hosted a Men's Health Expo for the first time and the turn out by the community, staff and health care providers was fabulous.

The Expo, was a wonderful event, and I want to thank Paul Drahm and all the coordinators for putting on such a meaningful and important expo.

These types of events take a lot of time and planning to organise and extra support to run smoothly.

The event featured information stalls and informative presentations on men's specific health care and advice.

Visitors were treated to a moving personal career journey of CSIRO's Dr Andrew Goodman and a host of screening services and presentations about:

- Brain injury integration services
- Bowl cancer screening
- Cancer, risk factors and screening
- Trauma and healing
- The Urban Indigenous Outreach Clinic
- Pain management.

The Men's Health Expo was an initiative under the Metro North Health Equity Strategy 2025-2028, specifically Key Action 3.8 – Connecting services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men.

Thank you to the Sandgate and Districts Men Shed for always being such a willing participant and facilitators of the barbeque, and the Dolphins Leagues Club for being an important part of the day.









A deeper look at the Older Persons Emergency Network

Last week I briefly welcomed the Voluntary Assisted Dying Team (VAD), and the Older Persons Emergency Network (OPEN) to our Directorate.

These teams, will provide a wealth of experience and knowledge to the broader directorate about the acute and sub-acute settings, but also bring a great opportunity for all of us to work closely and collaboratively together.

In Australia, patients aged 65 and over accounted for approximately 22 per cent of all emergency department presentations. The older population also continues to experience the highest growth in emergency department presentations.

There is greater risk of hospital-based harm in the frail and elderly due to a high level of vulnerability to complications such as falls, delirium, pressure injuries and secondary infection.

The OPEN model aims to reduce these risks by providing emergency healthcare in the home.

OPEN provides emergency care for older and more frail adults in their homes or residential aged care facilities, offering an alternative to hospital emergency departments.

I again welcome the close to 70 staff who will be joining us across a number of important services that underpin OPEN.

In the coming weeks, I will also share a deeper look at the VAD team.



TAFE Urapun nurses welcomed across COH and Redcliffe



We have welcomed the next intake of Urapun Clinical School of Nursing students.

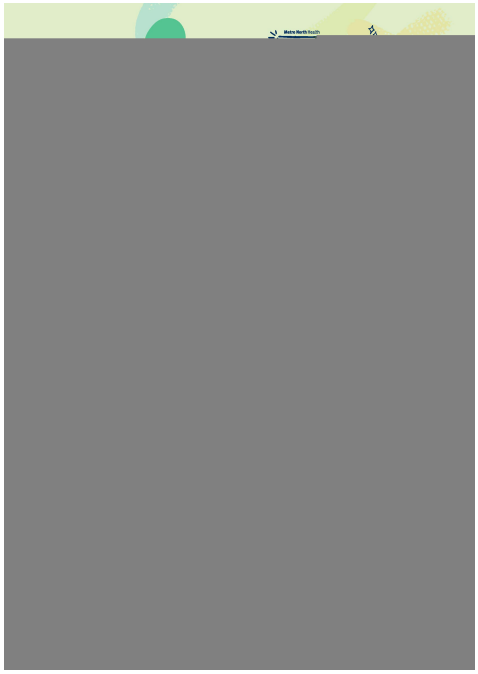
Urapun is a unique program for TAFE nursing students studying to become enrolled nurses providing practical training at Redcliffe Hospital and COH facilities.

Redcliffe's Keith Von Dohren welcomed the students along with Sharon Ragau and Karen Lush.

Urapun is one of the many programs we support to train and develop the next generation of

clinicians and health workers, alongside our School Based Traineeships, Deadly Start, graduates and partnerships with a range of universities.

Tree of Possibilities



To celebrate International Day of People with Disability on Thursday 3 December 2026, COH is inviting staff, consumers, families and friends to get creative and take part in our Tree of Possibilities Creative Display Competition!

Tree of Possibilities – Seeing Ability, Growing Opportunity

We encourage everyone to get involved by creating a tree-inspired display that celebrates the strengths, abilities, talents and potential of people with disability.

There are lots of ways to get creative!

Accepted entry formats include:

- Drawing and painting
- Photography and digital art
- Crochet, sewing and textile art
- Sculpture and recycled art
- Creative writing and poetry
- Baking and other creative displays.

There are awards up for grabs!

- **Team Award** – Recognising teams undertaking quality improvement initiatives that promote awareness and understanding of the acceptance of people with disabilities.
- **Staff Award** – Recognising staff who demonstrate outstanding commitment through inclusive practices, advocacy and innovation.
- **Consumer Award** – Recognising consumers who inspire others and actively promote inclusion and understanding of disabilities.

Entries close: Friday 27 November 2026.

Complete the online entry form using the link below:

Community and Oral Health International Day of Disability Awards 2026 – Fill in form

Final Shout Out - Aspley Halloween Celebration

Aspley Community Health Centre joined in the spooky spirit last week and hosted a very creative, if not disturbing Halloween themed cooking competition.

Congratulations to the winner of the best plate.

Brain Cake
Lauren Bugeja
Senior Administration Officer

I couldn't help but share these amazing photos.

The culinary capability and creativity of our staff has truly been on show the past few weeks.





Glynis Schultz
Executive Director

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