

The District Nurses Consumer News

Winter Edition 2021



A word from the Board Chair

I write to let you know of Sally Faulkner's decision to step down from CEO with TDN. She has decided to finish with full-time work after her long career of contribution to the health sector and enjoy some time with her family and her lovely home on the east coast. Sally has, in a short time with us, lead TDN through significant change and has put into place initiatives that will evolve and unfold over the coming months under new leadership. She has let us know she will finish with TDN August 13th, 2021.

We are also pleased to let you know that we have appointed an Interim CEO, Paul Byrne, to provide leadership to TDN until February 2022, while the Board recruits a new ongoing CEO. Paul will start with TDN on August 2nd, 2021.

Paul is highly regarded across the community sector for his long-term leadership of LiVE Tasmania. Paul is a very experienced people-centred CEO

with a wealth of experience in the contemporary business context of individual packages and consumer-centred care and service delivery.

Sally started with us two years ago in August 2019, and in her time with us has worked hard every day to keep our consumers at the centre of the rebuild of TDN. In her first months with us she brought her extensive skills and experience in contemporary clinical governance and nursing to lead us through accreditation under the Aged Care Standards. This was a foundational achievement and ensured TDN's future as a provider of high-quality home care to our consumers.

We will all remember with gratitude the calm, focused approach, and expertise she brought to lead us through the COVID pandemic, the most extreme public health situation of our generation.

Sally has refocused our culture, our risk management, and instigated the review of our business systems to support our work with the consumer at the centre.

She has brought her characteristic care and warmth to TDN and the Board is immensely grateful to Sally for the dedication and heart she has brought day after day to build firm foundations for TDN's continued development and prosperity.

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Farewell from CEO

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board, Executive and staff for their support and amazing effort this past 2 years.

It has been a privilege to work with such passionate and caring individuals whose aim is to work with you our consumers to ensure that we assist you to remain safe and well in your own home.

So, thank you for letting me be a small part of your journey. I leave with a tinge of sadness and yet excitement for this next chapter in my life, but I am also leaving knowing that TDN is in excellent hands and that our staff will continue to provide excellent care and service bringing not only their heads and hands to work but their hearts.

I have been truly blessed to work with such a wonderful team.

Sally Faulkner CEO

Theia Gaffney

It is with sadness that we acknowledge Mrs Theia Gaffney (born 18th July, 1928) who has passed away age 93 on 10th July, 2021.

Theia was a Life Member of The District Nurses and was 93 years old. Our only surviving member is Kath Smith.

We offer sincere condolences to Theia's family and friends.

Volunteer Program

Our Volunteer Program is now well underway with the number of volunteers gradually growing. We have been receiving positive feedback from our Consumers who really appreciate the support. This may include visiting and providing social contact, from sharing a cuppa and a chat, to a walk around their garden, or taking their dog for some much needed exercise.

The Book Club Facilitator now has a dedicated group who enjoy getting together with others to discuss their shared interest of books. Volunteers also attend the Wellness Hub sessions such as lunch get-togethers and Bingo. Volunteers bring with them a wide range of skills and knowledge and have been most helpful in assisting staff with administrative tasks within the organization. Their support is greatly appreciated!

If you wish to know more about Volunteering opportunities, or should you know of anyone who may be interested in Volunteering, please do not hesitate to contact Christine Kettleton, via TDN reception 62080500

Wellness Hub

The District Nurses Wellness Hub has taken off over the last 7 months with now seeing over 100 attendees coming to our sessions. We have increased our sessions from once per week to four days a week with a range of different wellness and social activities. Our sessions are focused on wellness, reablement and independence.

Wellness Hub calendars are sent out to our consumers once per month advertising all of our activities. Please feel free to invite along a friend to these sessions they are not limited to The District Nurses clients. Due to COVID requirements it's very important that you call to book into the sessions that you're interested in attending.

Some examples of the fun to be had in the Hub are exercise classes run by a qualified exercise physiologist, craft activities, group luncheons, Seniors First aid, informative presentations and much more.

On July 14th we celebrated Christmas in July with a roast lunch, some gifts and the return of the chocolate wheel!

The Wellness Hub is an evolving program that will continue to offer lots of exciting new experiences such as; technology support sessions, group get togethers, planned activities like craft, singing and music, Allied Health sessions including exercise, guest speakers, beauty and grooming services plus lots more.

Please contact The District Nurses on 6208 0500 for any Wellness Hub related information or bookings.



COVID Update

COVID 19 has presented the world with lots of challenges this last year and none of us could even comprehend that it would continue to this extent in 2021.

I want to reassure all our consumers and your families that TDN has continued to work to improve our approach to the management and protection of you, our staff and the wider community by ensuring our COVID Safety Plan is current and meets the guidelines provided to us by the Federal and State Governments.

All our staff were initially classified 1B in the vaccination roll-out but we have recently be recognised as front line workers and have access to the Public Health vaccination centres. I am pleased to advise that over 50% of our staff have had their first COVID 19 Vaccination and 40% have had their second.

We know that there is a delay with the availability of vaccines but we are confident that by the end of August the majority of our staff will have had their first vaccination.

If you or your family members have any queries in relation to COVID please do not hesitate to contact us as we have a COVID Liaison Nurse working each day Monday- Friday to assist with any queries.

We will continue to ask you questions every visit including if you are well or if any one in the house is well. At times this may seem over the top, but as Tasmanian's we have enjoyed a freedom during this pandemic due to our island state ability to lock down and keep travellers from hot spots entering.

Please respect our staff and support them when they visit and advise us and them if you are unwell or you have any concerns.

Working together is how we can keep Tasmania safe.

**Leaves are meant to fall, NOT people.
Too many of us have falls - they cause such
pain, inconvenience and cost.
How can we help to prevent falls?
Talk to our staff about your footwear
How to get up if you do fall - brochure
Trip hazards in your home
Lighting, colour and shadows
Hand rails
Personal alarms.**



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