

HAPPY EASTER

Newsletter



CEO Update: Helen Pollard

April 2022

Welcome to April! South Eastern Community Care, as a Community Organisation, is actively supporting a range of initiatives and awareness campaigns around health and wellbeing. In April we saw Autism Awareness Day – 2nd April. Also in April, World Day for Safety and Health at Work. All of our office staff have been asked to add the banners for these initiatives to their email signatures and we have supplied various flyers, pamphlets, information and questionnaires for all staff. This is a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness and an important training opportunity for all of us. Our Quality Team is working on a calendar for each month. We also will note the days/campaigns on our Facebook page, and our website.

Aged Care Many of our senior staff and Coordinators attended an online conference during the first week of April. There are significant changes to our Commonwealth Home Support Programs and Home Care Packages- how we are funded, how we receive income, and further restrictions or clarifications on what is allowed to be received through a Home Care Package. We are working on our processes to ensure we are prepared and able to continue to deliver services with the changes that are being implemented from the Commonwealth Government.

The changes may affect clients in the future with changes to Commonwealth Home Support, what Home Care Packages are able to fund, and how our Coordinators work with you to determine your supports. When/where we identify changes that will affect clients we will ensure we let the affected group/s know.

Disability We welcome Stewart Betts to our Disability Team. Stewart has commenced during March, and has been busy visiting participants and finding out what are the priorities/outstanding issues for those participants allocated to his workload. We have developed a range of new forms, including some improved risk assessments which will be used within our Disability Programs.

In recent times we have had some issues where workers have completed jobs/tasks with participants that are outside the agreed plans. Our staff are not allowed, under any circumstances, to assist client purchase equipment or aids without approval from an appropriate Allied Health Person AND with the prior approval of your Coordinator. At no time are our workers permitted to assist participants sell ANY items – on any online or private platform. This is absolutely for your protection and for the protection of our staff. Please feel free to contact your Coordinator or our General Manager (Michelle) if you have any queries in regards to this directive.

COVID We are experiencing a high amount of staff leave, due to staff either having COVID, or being close contacts and having to isolate. I apologise for any inconvenience this is causing due to cancelled or reallocated visits. The latest wave of COVID has certainly created more leave than we have experienced in the past and our scheduling team are working incredibly hard to rejig schedules which are often put into disarray multiple times a day! All Staff have to have a booster to be able to deliver services in your home, and we are monitoring to make sure all staff comply. We strongly encourage



all clients/participants to have the booster- please contact your Coordinator if you need assistance to access a booster, or even the fourth COVID vaccination which is now available.

Staff still HAVE to wear a mask in your home. If staff are not wearing a mask you are able to ask that they do so immediately, and/or report it to our office (mail@secommunitycare.com.au or 62691200). This is a simple and important thing that can be done to reduce the risk to you and your families.

Helen Pollard

General Manager's Update:

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Easter. Use this time to refuel, family is of utmost importance.

A huge thank you to all clients for your understanding regarding staff shortages due to COVID and unplanned leave. South Eastern Community Care are facing challenging times with increased amounts of sick leave among support staff due to COVID-19. To ensure that all consumers still receive their scheduled support with minimal disruptions, we have sought assistance from Guardian Network to provide these services on our behalf.

On occasions you may have a support worker from the Guardian Network attend to provide your service on behalf of SECC. This will not affect the cost of your service.



If you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to give your care coordinator, Lnioe Lord a call on 6269 1200.

With the end of daylight savings, please remember to change your batteries in your smoke detectors. Fire safety is everyone's business!

Michelle Moore

Quality Update

I would like to welcome 2 new people to the quality team! Kathy Maass who commenced as Quality and Risk Officer in March and Anneke Davies who is commencing in the role of Quality Support Officer in mid-April. Kathy and Anneke will support the quality program working alongside me to survey staff and clients and completing audits.

In March I attended the community support worker meetings to talk about the SEC Care quality program, it was great to meet more staff and I'm looking forward to talking about SEC Care with more of our clients. Similar issues are starting to trend from client interviews. We are all using the same question set and audit check lists, what I am looking for are the trends/what the majority of people are saying. These areas will become our future quality projects to work on with staff and clients. We will also pass on the fantastic feedback and comments we are getting about how great our staff are. The outcome of this work which will be completed a few times a year will be presented at staff and board meetings and shared with all of you in the newsletters.

Sharon

Business Services Update:

We would like to wish you a safe and happy Easter.

May the Easter Bunny bring you lots of chocolate and joy

From Barry, Jenny, Loretta, Karen, Nicole, Robert and Tracey



Relax and have your feet pampered at the SEC Care Foot Clinic!



Do you have trouble with your foot hygiene? Or perhaps you would like a bit of pampering? The SEC Care Foot Clinic operates out of the Little House opposite Banjos from Monday to Friday (unless Juliane is visiting the East Coast or Southern Midlands) The Foot Clinic is for our clients and the community.

Spread the news to your family and friends! Foot care is for any age/everyone and there are subsidised prices available for pensioners.

Fees: Pensioner: \$25 / Private: \$65

For more information or to book an appointment, please contact our friendly Reception team on 6269 1200

Juliane



Do you have volunteers and/or staff that provide home support and home maintenance related to home care?

Smoke Alarm Facts

Free training session for your workers provided by the Tasmania Fire Service

When: **Wednesday 11 May**

Where: online at 12:30pm

[Register for this training](#)

This fire safety session will include information about the:

- types of smoke alarms and when to replace them,
- the best placement of smoke alarms for fire detection,
- testing and cleaning regimes of smoke alarms,
- common issues that cause false alarms, and the
- range of free home fire safety resources and programs.

This training will enable your workers to:

- reduce the risk fire related injuries in the workplace when the workplace is in someone's home,
- assist your consumers/tenants with their home fire safety, and
- reduce the risk of fire related injuries and fatalities in Tasmania.

For more information about training in home fire risk reduction contact
Lesley King, manager and trainer-Home Fire Risk Mitigation
on 03 6166 5606 or email lesley.king@fire.tas.gov.au



Tasmania Fire Service

Preventing Falls

Tips for Seniors

APRIL FALLS DAY



To Do

- Check your home for tripping/slipping hazards: most falls happen at home.
- Bone up on calcium & vitamin D: most of us are not getting enough in our diets.
- Check medications. Consult your doctor, especially if you are on more than three medications a day.
- Make an appointment to get your eyes checked at least once a year after the age of 65.
- Try tai chi, a strength-building, balance exercise that has been shown to reduce the risk of falling.

Have emergency numbers handy near your bed and by all phones.

Wear shoes with good rubber soles. Avoid loosely fitting slippers.

Ensure pathways, decks and stairs are in good repair with railings and good traction.

Falls Prevention®
is everyone's business

www.canadasafetycouncil.org



Sources: Public Health Agency of Canada & Health Canada. Reproduced with permission.

Day Centre highlights

We have a great month planned for our day centres as we look forward to celebrating Easter. Our aged programs will enjoy crafting some woollen birds, participating in some Easter activities and finding out which of our clients have secret talents to share with the group. We are also still hosting our bingo days on Fridays from 10:00am-12:00pm please feel free come along and enjoy a few games of bingo and a light morning tea.

Our disability program will enjoy many different outings this month. They have planned to go to Dodges Ferry and have coffee by the beach, a visit to Mount Pleasant Observatory and museum and an op-shopping day followed by lunch. The clients will also enjoy a trip to Rosedale homestead for lunch and an Easter egg hunt at the Campania Hall.



We wish all of our clients a safe and happy Easter and look forward to many great days ahead.

Our wonderful Day Centre programs celebrated our National Close The Gap Day recently- (see left). We were joined by some very special guests; Rosie and her companion dog Coco and Heidi Lethbridge. A very special day for all involved!
[#closethegap](#)



Our NDIS Social Group program participants attended the Bream Creek Show on Saturday 19th March. A brilliant time was had by all involved. Thanks to Tasmania Fire Service for the fire truck shenanigans! After the Show, we had a beautiful picnic at Dunalley!



Volunteer Drivers needed
Hello! We are always on the hunt for volunteer transport drivers. To enquire as to how you can help, please call 6269 1200!

Monday Men's Group:
Our Men's Group meets every Monday over the next month except Easter Monday and Anzac Day!

Sorell Day Centre:

- **Wed 20 April-** Shaving cream fun
- **Wed 27 April-** Secret Talent Day!
- **Wed 4 May-** Bead craft-jewellery
- **Wed 11 May-** Dustpan Golf
- **Wed 18 May-** The Price is Right 60s and 70s
- **Wed 25 May-** DIY Hanging Planter
- Bingo every Friday except Good Friday

Brighton Day Centre:

- **Thurs 21 April-** Shaving cream fun
- **Thursday 28 April-** Dog biscuit baking and games
- **Thursday 5 May-** Decorate your own shopping bag
- **Thursday 12 May-** The Price is Right 60s and 70s
- **Thursday 19 May-** Biggest Morning Tea \$10 cash plus raffle money
- **Thursday 26 May-** DIY Hanging Planter

Orford Day Centre:

No activities 15-25 April inclusive

- **Tuesday 26 April-** Shopping Trip!- leaving Triabunna at 0830
- **Mon 2 May-** In house 10-2pm
- **Tues 3 May-** Out for lunch surprise (no more Anna and Mandy lunches)
- **Mon 8 May-** In house 10-2pm
- **Tues 16 May-** Dust Pan Golf 10-2PM
- **Mon 23 May-** DIY Hanging Planter
- **Tues 30 May-** Surprise TBA