



FoundationNEWS

SPRING 2023

GATHERED HERE: WRITE YOUR WILL FOR FREE ONLINE

Northern Health Foundation has recently partnered with Gathered Here; an online Will platform. This service will allow users of any age to write their Will for free online.

As Gathered Here continues to grow, its beneficial service to the community is serving as a powerful example of how planning for the future is pivotal at any stage of life.

One crucial aspect of this planning is ensuring that your assets and wishes are protected through a well-drafted Will. Gathered Here offers a comprehensive solution to help you secure your future with ease and peace of mind.

A recent bequest by Neville Scarlett, a talented botanist and ecologist, was gifted to the Palliative Care Unit at Northern Hospital Epping.

Neville's gift will continue to benefit patients during end-of-life care for years to come, leaving a lasting legacy. It's times like these we realise the importance of Wills and expressly stating how we would like to be remembered.

Gathered Here can benefit your future planning by offering privacy and security, knowing that your personal information will be kept safe. Drafting a Will



through traditional legal channels can be expensive. Gathered Here offer its services for free, eliminating the financial barrier to ensuring your assets are distributed according to your wishes.

We are proud to offer this service to our community, staff and patients, to ensure you are in control of your own future.

If you would like more information on how Gathered Here can benefit you, or need help with beginning the process of writing your Will, please get in touch with us.

Gathered Here can help you integrate philanthropy into your Will, making a positive impact on causes close to your heart. If you wish to leave a charitable legacy, please scan the QR code.



QUARTERLY STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS

On 1 August 2023, Northern Health virtually hosted the third Quarterly Staff Recognition Awards for 2023 to celebrate and acknowledge the amazing work of our dedicated staff. There was an outstanding response from our staff with a number of nominations received across seven different categories.

Siva Sivarajah, Chief Executive, opened the ceremony by acknowledging the incredible work of our staff across the health service. "The number and standard of nominations for these awards were very high. I would like to acknowledge and congratulate all staff who received a nomination, along with those who took the time to nominate their peers and colleagues."

Michelle Fenwick, Executive Director, People and Culture, presented the awards, and said it was an honour to help recognise and award staff who demonstrate excellence in the work they do each and every day.

"I am extremely proud to work in an organisation where staff are passionate and kind and turn up to work every day to provide outstanding care to our patients and community. We thank you all for your hard work and dedication."

Among these award winners was Northern Health Foundation who received the *Above and Beyond Award*. The team was recognised for their incredible efforts in raising over \$800,000 during 2022/23, which has assisted in the purchase of state-of-the-art medical

equipment and technology to enhance patient care and providing PhD scholarships to support ground-breaking medical research.

We sincerely thank our community for their ongoing support of our Foundation and the work we do to ensure we're providing the best possible care.

Thank you to BankVic for their ongoing support of the Quarterly Staff Recognition Awards.



L to R: Tanya Dimoska, Kim Berger, Melissa Grenville and Margaret Rivette receiving the Above and Beyond Recognition Award

THANK YOU, SAN PADRE PIO ASSOCIATION LALOR

We would like to take this opportunity to thank San Padre Pio Association Lalor for their generous donation of \$4,583 to our Northern Health Bundoora Centre.

Bundoora will be receiving new furniture to aid in patient comfort, including the Tranquille Glider Chair.

This chair provides a gentle gliding action to help create a calming and soothing effect for agitated or anxious individuals. The gliding action is also excellent for Alzheimer's as it helps reduce the need for wandering.

Thank you to Biagio and Angelo for their continued support of Northern Health. We look forward to seeing the positive impact your generosity will give to our patients at Bundoora Centre.



L to R: Angelo Ricci, Melissa Grenville and Biagio Patti

CARING FOR OUR PALLIATIVE CARE

Part of Northern Health Foundation's fundraising initiative is the Workplace Giving Program which allows both new and established staff members the opportunity to give back to their health service by making a fortnightly contribution.



The hallways of the PCU are now filled with an abundance of colour, with over 20 beautiful artwork pieces adorning its walls. The artwork has immensely brightened the space, allowing patients, staff and visitors to enjoy.

The Foundation would like to sincerely thank BankVic and Artist Lane for their ongoing support of this project, and thank you to our wonderful Workplace Givers for your continued contributions. This would not have been possible without your support.

These contributions accumulate, so the Foundation can continue providing care for staff and patients in our community. With the added support of BankVic, who generously dollar matches these Workplace Giving donations up to \$20,000, the Foundation was able to do something special for the Palliative Care Unit at Northern Hospital Epping.

If you would like to make a donation, please scan the QR code. If you are a staff member and would like to join our Workplace Giving Program, please contact us via the details on the back page of this newsletter.



THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

The Foundation would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our wonderful Northern Health Volunteers who continue to be a tremendous support to our health service.

Volunteers have an array of jobs, spread throughout the hospital, across departments and campuses. The ongoing and dedicated support to staff and patients has not gone unnoticed. Managing the tea trolley, baby cuddling, making and selling knitted goods, wayfinding, and the

overall support to the Foundation and hospital has been an incredible help to our staff, patients and community. Thank you to each and every Northern Health Volunteer. We are truly appreciative of everything you do!



ABOUT THE TEAM

Northern Health Foundation, or 'The Foundation' as it's typically referred to, is the fundraising arm of Northern Health. Our aim is to raise funds to support staff and patients across Northern Health.

The Foundation team is led by Pina Di Donato, Executive Director, Public Affairs and Foundation, and Melissa Grenville, Foundation Director. Melissa leads a small group of enthusiastic individuals who are passionate about making a difference with her team, consisting of Margaret Rivette, Fundraising Campaigns Officer, Tatjana Dimoska, Administration and Database Officer and Kim Berger, Community Engagement Coordinator. They work closely with Henni Wade, Volunteer Services Manager, who is a fantastic support to the team.

Over the 2022-23 period, they funded more than \$800,000 in medical equipment and research across all four Northern Health campuses, including state-of-the-art medical equipment and technology to enhance patient care, supporting the upgrade of patient and visitor facilities and funding Ph.D. scholarships to support ground-breaking medical research.

While there is fantastic support from government funding, there are many areas within the health service where staff and departments identify a need and come to the team for assistance.

The Foundation works towards fulfilling those needs with the available resources to build on the services and become an even stronger support system for staff and the community.

Northern Health staff are also wonderful contributors through the Workplace Giving Program. Pre-tax contributions are

dollar-matched by BankVic up to \$20,000 and are used to fund projects around our health service. Most recently, Workplace Giving contributions have enabled the purchase of beautiful art pieces in the Palliative Care Unit at Northern Hospital Epping.

Melissa Grenville, Director Foundation, says, "We're a small team who do amazing work, tirelessly fundraising to support our staff and health service. As the new Director, I am excited to work with the board, executives, Pina and the Foundation team to implement our strategic plan and grow our team to be fully resourced. We are also developing some fantastic initiatives and events to support our upcoming campaigns for 2023-24."

The team is excited to meet new people and continue working with staff to fundraise to support various departments across Northern Health.



If you would like to help the Foundation continue fundraising for the hospitals they care for, please scan the QR code, or you can donate by calling 8405 2897. Every dollar adds up! We are truly appreciative of your support.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF ADA MARTIN

Ada Martin was known as a strong, active, independent woman who was still driving her car and going on many bus tours prior to her passing. She kept her house spotless, mowed the lawn and maintained her vast and beautiful gardens. She also enjoyed many activities; especially live theatre shows and movies.

After surviving bowel cancer, Ada was unfortunately diagnosed with lung cancer in early 2022. She was admitted to Northern Hospital after suffering falls and blackouts where she was later diagnosed with head cancer. From there, she was transferred to rehabilitation until her illness progressed and required more care.

Ada was admitted to Ian Brand Residential Care at Bundoora Centre on 17 January, 2023. Her daughter, Linda, reflected on Ada being very happy there, with the fantastic staff involving her in the many daily activities. Just like at home, Ada loved watching movies and spent time doing so with the other patients.

“She was well cared for, and we are grateful for the loving treatment she was given as Ada was quite dependent on the staff for everything,” mentions Linda.

“The Bundoora gardens are so peaceful and beautiful, especially with the bird activity. They are well-maintained, and there are many places to just sit and enjoy.”

With Ada’s passing, her family wanted to do something special in memory of Ada and her love of gardens and



nature. In honour of the caring staff, a donation was made to enhance the gardens at Bundoora Centre, with many plants in flower. It will only improve as they mature.

“We are truly thankful for the wonderful job the staff did and hope that the many residents and visitors enjoy the garden as much as we did,” said Linda.

Ada was at Ian Brand Residential Care for four months. The family will be forever grateful to staff for making her last days bearable.



Ada’s children, David and Linda, visiting the memorial garden in loving memory of their mother.

Thank you

to all our incredible supporters!
We couldn't do this without you.



Stay in contact with us



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INCLUDE A GIFT

Leaving a gift in your Will is a touching way to give ongoing vital support and leave behind a legacy. By including Northern Health Foundation in your Will, you are benefiting the community and health service for years to come.

We would love to hear from you.

- Please send me information on how I can include Northern Health Foundation in my Will, via:
 - Email
 - Mail
- I would like someone to contact me about leaving a gift in my Will to Northern Health Foundation.

WAYS TO SUPPORT US



Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets today!



Thank you
for your support



Have you thought about leaving to a charity in your Will?



Northern Health
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