

From our CEO



Welcome to our summer newsletter. It's hard to believe we are nearly at the end of the year but it is a welcome relief to feel the summer heat. As I look back on 2021, I have much to be thankful for. We have welcomed many new clients and staff to Melville Cares and have supported more people to stay living at home.

We have increased clinical and allied health services to support people with complex needs as well as held monthly information sessions on a variety of topics. We launched Melville Friends to provide an opportunity to come together socially, visit places of interest and develop new hobbies. All together we provided around 160,000 hours of support and over 21,000 transport trips. What a year! I would like to thank you for providing regular feedback on what is working well, ways we can improve and other services you would like us to offer. Thank you in particular to those who filled out our last newsletter survey, our team were delighted to hear what you most value and we learnt from your feedback on where we can improve.

You may recognise some comments about our team members on the next page that we used in our annual report. Finally, I would like to express my thanks for such a warm welcome to the role of CEO of Melville Cares. It is an honour to be in this role and to lead the team that you welcome into your lives and homes.

From all of us at Melville Cares we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and may you feel the spirit of our community around you.



Spotlight on our Chair of the Board

Here's a little bit about my background. I did a music scholarship at high school and started my university career doing a degree in music. This didn't last long, but it did get me my first regular job, which was doing singing telegrams! If you had a Gorilla Gram at a party about 35 years ago then maybe it was me! After music and a brief period studying biology, I ended up doing software engineering for a job, just for a change.

In my late 20s I went back to Uni and became a podiatrist as I was getting more interested in Health Care. I have stayed in this role for almost 25 years, both as a practicing clinician as well as being involved in education and advocacy.

My first exposure to governance was as a member of my state professional association. From there I moved to our national group and spent 3 years as the national president. I have since served on several boards, and more recently was the chair of Advocare, Inc. I enjoy governance work and the role in which governance plays in the growth and development of organisations.



Diabetes Education Service



Better diabetic education and knowledge to control and treat diabetes at the right time can reduce the risk factors and minimize the chances to develop complications of diabetes.

Melville Cares can now arrange for a **Diabetes Educator** to come to your house and provide information specifically to meet your needs and situation. Please contact your coordinator or Melville Cares office on 9319 0900

Melville Friends



The development and participation within our Melville Friends Social Group has grown considerably over the last few months. The focus of Melville Friends is social inclusion, forming friendships and connecting with the community. Outings have included trips to Araluen Botanic Gardens, Fremantle and Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre as well as various museums. Our clients have also engaged in Sewing, Cooking and IT classes at various community centres in the City of Melville and surrounds. The feedback has been extremely positive and we look forward to the coming months with a focus on all things Christmas !!!! Planning is already underway for 2022 so if you would like to check your eligibility and book in some outings please contact Lis at Melville Cares on 9319 0904 or email info@melvillecares.org.au. We look forward to you joining us.

Hear what you had to say about some of our team

When thinking about Melville Cares, I think they are good at...:

Everything, every carer, cleaner and gardener that I have had in my home because they have all been fabulous and contributed to my health and wellbeing in various ways.

Ivy Sullivan

Everything. Girls on the phone are so great, professional and caring. Wonderful staff. I appreciate them so much. My cleaner is fantastic, very quick, trustworthy, great personality, very caring. Just a great service. I recommend Melville Cares to everyone. Thank you so much for caring & looking after us.

Kaye Tate

Helping in so many ways. volunteer bus driver Glyn is so helpful kind and considerate and a delight to be in the bus with.

Denise Vass



Melville Cares has made my life so, so much better. I have cleaning and an OT come to my house and they instigated having a toilet with handles, rails, mobile stair lift and back gate rail installed which makes life so much better. The activities programme (Melville Friends) is a blessing

Sandra Jackiewicz

Being sensitive to the needs of senior citizens. Nutritious food is served in the Day Centre, often a quality entertainer will attend. My dear wife left me after a lengthy bout of Alzheimers disease. Watching her slowly fade away was difficult for me. After her funeral I developed acute PTSD, various therapies were ineffectual. Joining Melville Cares helped make life worth living again.

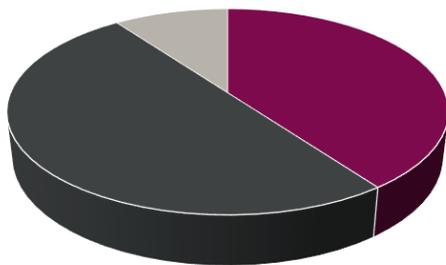
Client who wishes to remain anonymous

This year our annual report was published electronically, and can be found on our website <https://melvillecares.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Melville-Cares-Annual-Report-2021.pdf>

Did you know? (Some statistics about our workforce)



Community Workers - 5 years and over service



■ over 5 years ■ over 10 years ■ over 20 years

Our Community Workers have

521

combined years of experience

Have your Say

Help us name this newsletter, or suggest future content, email to info@melvillecares.org.au

