

New GM Breathes Life into The Hospice Project

In October 2017, Carisa Wells was employed by the Southern Highlands Community Hospice as the new General Manager. With extensive business management and retail experience Carisa is the perfect fit to lead the hospice project into 2018 and beyond.

Carisa has brought a range of new ideas and influences into the Hospice organisation. With the role of GM encompassing everything from finance and marketing, to managing volunteers and fundraising, it's a huge benefit she's owned her own businesses. The need to wear many hats is second nature to her and the challenge of running several projects at once is what she really enjoys about her new position.

When asked why she wanted to work with the hospice Carisa gave this emotional and heartfelt response:

"11 years ago my Mother passed away from a brain tumour in a palliative care facility. She was too ill to stay at home and we knew further acute treatment would be futile. The nurses and carers at the hospice were open, understanding and completely accommodating of me and my family and our need to be with mum around the clock. I will be forever grateful for the respect and care they showed my mother at the end of her life. Drawing



Carisa Wells: Southern Highlands Community Hospice new General Manager

from my own experience I feel it's a great disservice to our Southern Highlands Community that we currently have no such facility available. Unfortunately I know first hand the benefits a hospice would provide our area and believe it's quite simply an essential addition to our local health care sector. I'm willing to give this project everything I can. I'm that passionate about it"

The SHC Hospice is always looking for willing volunteers to help in the stores, with fundraising and other projects.

If you have some spare time we'd love to welcome you into our organisation. Not only would you be contributing to the community, it's a wonderful way to stay active and be social.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

The SHC Hospice welcomes financial donations, as well as good quality clothing, footwear, furniture and homewares.

Please contact one of our stores for advice or visit our website shchospice.org.au to give online.

YOU CAN HELP!

Building Project Update



Palliative Care is the buzz word of the moment in both State and Federal Governments. In a recent article in the SMH, Palliative Care Australia expressed grave concerns to the Turnbull Government of the severe shortfall in end of life care services nationally. Despite \$100 million dollars of NSW State funds being earmarked for the roll out of palliative care training, the organisation says the issue is so dire they're calling for a 'palliative care commissioner' to be appointed immediately. It therefore seems the Southern Highlands Community Hospice is at the forefront of future health care requirements not just for the local community, but for all communities across Australia.

After a number of false starts, the location for the 10 bed hospice has finally been decided on at 104 -106 Bowral Street Bowral, right opposite the private hospital. Being so convenient to the

'health locale' is a dream come true to the Southern Highlands Community Hospice movement.

"We couldn't have imagined a better position for the Hospice" Board Chairman Peter Fletcher has commented. "One of the challenges was finding a location that was not just suitable for the friends and families of the hospice residents, but also convenient for the doctors, nurses and health care workers required to care for our patients."

With the DA for construction of the building being submitted in September, 2017 and responses from the public requested by the council, a big step forward was taken at the end of last year. This progression has been coupled with the engagement of a professional fundraising acquisition team headed by Mark Quigley of Social Venture Consultants. A proposal will be presented to the State Government with the intention of obtaining funds for both the capital expenditure and ongoing costs of the SHC hospice.