

1. Vendor's Announcement



Closure of Betheden Aged Care Service, Murrumbeena

Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania values the aged care partnership with Churches of Christ in Queensland. This partnership has enabled CCVT to continue the ministry of Jesus through aged care, and it has been formally in place since the implementation of the Aged Care Services merger in July 2011. At that time Queensland's care services division (Churches of Christ Care) took over management of three of CCVT's aged care facilities (Arcadia, Betheden and Oak Towers).

In accordance with the merger agreement, Churches of Christ Care has the responsibility not only to manage the three facilities, but also to review their operations and ongoing viability. This process is ongoing, and there are regular conversations, at both staff and governance levels, between Queensland and CCVT about this and other relevant matters. The time has now come to acknowledge and resolve significant challenges presented at the Betheden facility.

- Churches of Christ Care and CCVT acknowledge that Betheden's buildings have a number of limitations which restrict the ability to continue to offer the high standard of care for residents and to operate the service cost-effectively.
- Churches of Christ Care have evaluated a number of options for continuing to operate the Betheden Aged Care Service before making the difficult decision to close it.
- The decision to close Betheden is a difficult one for Churches of Christ Care and the two Conference entities (Queensland and Vic/Tas). Nevertheless, the relevant governance entities (in CCVT, Council and the Community Care board) have determined that the Betheden Aged Care Service will be closing, by 15 December 2014.
- The purchaser of the service will be Jewish Care, a local provider of residential aged care who approached Churches of Christ Care to purchase the Betheden site and licences (subject to appropriate approvals). Negotiations (with CCVT participation) took place and it was agreed to sell the Betheden site and licences (subject to appropriate approvals) to Jewish Care, with settlement expected to occur during 2015. Subject to a successful town planning application, Jewish Care intends to construct a 120 bed state-of-the-art residential aged care facility.

Churches of Christ Care is committed to continue operations in Victoria, and in accordance with the merger agreement, proceeds of the sale of Betheden will be invested in other care and mission services in the Melbourne area. Regular meetings are held between Queensland's CEO, Dean Phelan, and CCVT CEO, Paul Cameron, and other staff to discuss future activities and opportunities.

Given this decision, and as is appropriate, the first priorities are the care for our residents and their families and sourcing opportunities for staff and volunteers. Residents, staff and volunteers are being consulted, with residents accommodated and staff redeployed where possible within the other Melbourne services.

As another chapter of the story of aged care services in Vic/Tas concludes and a new one waits to be written, it is helpful to reflect on the past a bit. It is the story of God's people reaching out to care for people who for one reason or another were (and are) in need of support and assistance. The story also includes the stories of visionary leaders who were (and are) committed to discovering relevant ways in their context to love God and to love people, and so to announce the Kingdom, and to be building communities of hope and compassion. That's why in 1951 a large property in Murrumbeena was purchased and opened as a 25 bed nursing home. Originally named in honour of former Social Services Director, Will H Clay MBE, with a later addition of further accommodation named after another former Director, William T Atkin MBE. Still later the home was expanded to 60 high care beds and subsequently renamed Betheden.

Please join us in giving thanks for the ministry provided by all those who have been involved in Betheden since 1951, and also for the discernment of new opportunities to continue the ministry of Jesus through appropriately designed and located care services. Together we believe that these new opportunities will be communities where God's Kingdom can be accessed, and hope and compassion offered.

Readers in CCVT are encouraged to contact Paul Cameron if further information is required.

Paul Cameron, CCVT Executive Officer

Dean Phelan, Churches of Christ in Queensland CEO

2. Purchaser's Announcement



Media Release

7 October 2014

Plans for New Aged Care Residence in Carnegie

By Ayal Tusia

Jewish Care Victoria is pleased to announce the purchase of land at 1 Wahgoo Road, Carnegie for the future construction of a 120 bed residential aged care facility.

The 7,917sqm site currently has an older style 60 bed aged care facility on it called Betheden, which Churches of Christ Care has made the decision to close by mid-December 2014. After an extensive search for a suitable site for a new 120 bed aged care facility, Jewish Care approached Churches of Christ Care and has agreed to purchase the Carnegie site subject to a successful town planning outcome.

Jewish Care CEO Bill Appleby said that, "The purchase of the Carnegie site is the final piece in the jigsaw to allow Jewish Care to deliver 3 senior living precincts as outlined in our Towards Tomorrow - Strategic Plan 2014-2017. It also aligns with the findings of the recent demographic analysis conducted by Monash University's Australian Centre for Jewish Civilization, which highlights the significant shift in Jewish population into the south eastern corridor in Melbourne. Our community's continued growth in these areas will now be ideally served by this exciting development" he said.

On 2 October, Dean Phelan, Chief Executive Officer of Churches of Christ in Queensland, which incorporates Churches of Christ Care, met with Jewish Care's President Mike Debinski, Co-Vice President Jeffrey Appel and CEO Bill Appleby to sign the contracts of sale.

Dean Phelan congratulated Jewish Care on its purchase of Betheden and expressed pleasure that the aged care legacy of the site will continue.

"Aged care has been a part of this Carnegie site since the 1950s and I am heartened that aged care will continue there for many years to come. We think that Jewish Care is the perfect custodian for future generations of residents, staff and volunteers in this community." Mr Phelan said.

This purchase is just one of a number of major capital investment projects worth \$180 million over the next 10 years that will see Jewish Care grow and change the face of aged care, disability and community services for the Victorian Jewish community.

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respect

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