

MEDIA RELEASE

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Date: 10 June 2021

PCNSW WELCOMES \$82.8M PROMISE

Palliative Care NSW (PCNSW) welcomes the recent announcement by NSW Health on an \$82.8 million dollar budget boost for palliative care.

“This is terrific news” says Linda Hansen, CEO PCNSW. “It’s rewarding to see the work we do to promote more support for palliative care and the commitment of our members, recognised with such substantial support.”

According to Linda, it is also great news for Western Sydney Local Health District, and the organisation’s western Sydney membership, who have been working hard on bed allocation issues. “This announcement will go some way to addressing those challenges.”

Part of the \$82.8 million funding will provide for up to 120 full time equivalent additional staff. PCNSW understands the challenges of recruiting and training suitably qualified professionals in the sector. “We are ideally placed to support workforce reform,” says the CEO. “We can reach out through membership and other networks, as well as provide support and education for ongoing professional development.”

Another major funding target is the provision of multidisciplinary care to maintain patient wellbeing and independence at home.

A volunteer workforce of over 1700 members currently supports that care in NSW. “Volunteers are highly valued and absolutely necessary in the ongoing delivery of quality palliative care”, Linda said. “I think this would be a great opportunity to build on the existing palliative care volunteer services that exist across the state and where there are gaps, to fully fund a Palliative Care Volunteer Manager in every Local Health District (LHD).”

As the peak body and leading voice in NSW for its membership and the general public, Palliative Care NSW looks forward to hearing more details soon.

MEDIA: Linda Hansen, CEO, Palliative Care NSW | 02) 8076 5600
info@palliativecarensw.org.au | palliativecarensw.org.au