



## ANMF NEWSFLASH

# Respect Aged Care Workplace Concerns

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) met with members at Respect Coroneagh Park, Mt St Vincent and Eliza Purton Home. The ANMF on behalf of members have formally notified your employer of the following concerns:

### **Mt St Vincent**

The facility manager has been asked by members to increase care minutes as they are unable to attend to residents in a timely manner - this has not been done, members report being told that the care minutes are being met. The Australian Government's My Aged Care Website star rating for Mt St Vincent staffing reports a 41 minutes per resident per day shortfall. This equates to approximately 50 hours of care per day not rostered over the facility. As a result, short notice shift coverage is almost impossible to obtain as care workers have accepted shifts elsewhere as the "work is easier" in other places. One example put forward is that for approximately 50 residents there are 3 care workers, however, at least 20 of the residents require 2 care workers for hygiene assist. To add to the workload at Mt St Vincent **all** meals are delivered by care workers not by hospitality staff.

### **Coroneagh Park**

The care minutes are not being met and where there have been minimal increases to the baseline roster it appears that that has been a "trial" which rumour has it that the hours will revert to pre the increase. The star rating for staffing is reported as being 21 minutes below the required minutes. In addition, there are concerns with:

- DECT phones – this has been raised as a concern in previous correspondence however it appears that DECT phones continue to be of concern. Apparently, there is now only a couple of working DECT



phones. The lack of an appropriate communication system leaves residents' calls unanswered, inefficiencies in an already time poor environment and increases stress levels. Care workers understanding is that management are waiting on a different call system as new phones are unable to be sourced.

- Potential safety concerns as it appears that testing and tagging of electrical equipment is well overdue.

### **Eliza Purton Home**

Members at Eliza Purton Home do not share the same workload concerns, in fact, members report that when the roster is not impacted by unfilled short term leave members feel able to meet residents' needs in a timely manner. It was in fact described to the ANMF at the meeting as a great place to work and on the shifts, they are short staffed, they all work together as a team to get the job done with the least impact on residents. In the star ratings, staffing at Eliza Purton Home is only 4 mins per resident short of target.

**The ANMF Tasmanian Branch is 8000 plus members strong! Supporting nurses, midwives, and care workers as the only union in Tasmania employing nurses, midwives and care workers to represent members. This is why our Organisers and Member Support Team are uniquely positioned to understand your experiences, represent you in your workplace, and offer industrial advice that's relevant to you.**

---

Authorised by Emily Shepherd, ANMF Tasmanian Branch Secretary  
16 October 2024