

# BSHS NEWS

DECEMBER 2022



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## THE MONTH IN REVIEW

*Meryn Pease (CEO)*

On behalf of the Beaufort and Skipton Health Service Board and the Executive team, I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and safe 2023.

It has certainly been a year full of achievements and challenges including COVID-19 waves of infection in the community and ongoing restrictions, RAT testing and vaccinations. A couple of our achievements during the year saw us receive the Huron Studer Organisational Excellence Award, meet the NSQHS accreditation standards, deliver a strong financial result for 2021-2022 and present at the Huron Studer National Conference on our Inspire program results.

My grateful thanks to all the fabulous BSHS staff, our dedicated volunteers and our outstanding team of GP's for their hard work, expertise and commitment that has enabled BSHS to have a great year of achievement in meeting the healthcare needs of the Beaufort and Skipton communities.

My thanks and good wishes also go to our many partner agencies for their support during the last year.

Our care and support is especially with our staff and members of our community who have lost loved ones during the year and for whom facing this Christmas season can be particularly difficult. You are in our thoughts and in our hearts.

Special thanks to our many staff who will be working over the festive season. We can only hope that it will be a calmer time and bushfire free.

### Beaufort

28 Havelock St, Beaufort  
5349 1600

### Skipton

2 Blake St, Skipton  
5340 1100



CONNECT WITH US

[bshs.org.au](https://bshs.org.au)

Beaufort and Skipton Health Service acknowledges the Wadawurrung people, as the traditional custodians of the land and their continuing connection to land, water and community.



We pay our respects to them and their culture, and to elders both past and present.



## OUR BUSINESS

My hope is that all members of the extended BSHS family have an opportunity for some rest, reflections and a special time with family and friends over the next few weeks, and that this will equip us well into the New Year with energy and optimism.

My thanks and very best wishes to you all.

*Regards Mervyn*



### BOARD CHAIR REPORT

*David Lenehan (Board Chair)*

The BSHS Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on Wednesday 23 November with six out of seven Directors present and the Executive Management Team in attendance. We also welcomed our newly appointed Support Services Manager, Kel Oswin, to his first meeting.

As mentioned in the last newsletter the Annual Board of Director Appointment Round for appointments commencing on 1 July 2023 has recently been conducted. We have established a small Board Subcommittee to review the applications for the BSHS Board and recommend a shortlist for interviews which will take place early in the new year.

I thought it might be timely to provide staff with an overview of the role and responsibilities of public health service boards. The Health Service Board's governance role is established pursuant to relevant legislation and generally involves but is not limited to:

- Developing the organisation's vision, values, strategic direction and objectives
- Evaluating executive management recommendations on important strategic and operational matters
- Ensuring that the Health Service delivers safe, quality healthcare to all consumers, minimising risk and meeting, exceeding and continuously improving the required clinical performance standards
- Scrutinising key financial and non-financial risks and ensuring the implementation of an effective clinical performance, risk management, compliance and internal control framework
- Ensuring the adequacy of internal regulatory and policy compliance systems
- Adopting appropriate ethical standards, codes of conduct and appropriate behaviours, and ensuring these are adhered to, including by Directors themselves
- Overseeing CEO performance management and management succession plans

## OUR BUSINESS

At BSHS the Board of Directors carries out these responsibilities through its clinical governance framework and Board Subcommittee structure which comprises the following:

- Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee
- Clinical Governance Committee
- Credentialing and Clinical Scope of Practice Committee
- Medical Consultative Committee
- Community Advisory Committee
- Project Control Group
- Board Development and Remuneration Committee

Supporting the Board Subcommittee Structure are important operational committees and working groups including Quality and Safety, OH&S, People and Culture, Emergency Management and Environmental Sustainability.

I believe the Clinical Governance Structure within our Health Service is comprehensive and robust and this is due to the skills, experience and commitment of our Board Directors, Executive Team and staff who all contribute to ensure the quality, safety and sustainability of BSHS.

*Regards David*

## TRACHOMA RESULTS

In late 2020 BSHS made up toiletry bags and donated toiletries for the Beaufort Rotary Club's participation in the Rotary District's 2000 Toiletry Kits that were collectively distributed to schools in Remote Alice Springs.

Results show that since the donation of the toiletry kits the rates of trachoma have improved dramatically. In 2019, results showed that 18.3% of kids 5-9 years old across the 25 communities that were screened, had trachoma. The latest results have dropped dramatically to 3.7%, which is a huge reduction.

It is noted that the donations and toiletry kits has to have had an impact on the results. The Project Coordinator has advised that in the five years she has been working on the EndTrachoma project, she has not seen such a positive change in results.



OUR CONSUMERS

OUR RESIDENTS - CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS



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## OUR CONSUMERS

### THE FOOD AND DINING EXPERIENCE

#### Why have we been focusing on our residents food and dining experience?

- Feedback from residents on meals and their dining experience.
- Residents weight loss was above state average across our Aged Care services.

#### What have we been doing to improve the dining experience?

- External catering review
- Food Focus working group
- IDDSI audits completed on modified food
- Training on IDDSI reviewed and started
- Introduced feedback forms for meals in real time
- Looked at supplement processes
- Reviewed how meals are delivered and presented at Beaufort Hostel
- Started providing education on dining experience
- Medications at meal times reviewed
- Turning the TV off at meal times
- SoupedUp implemented to allow a connected catering system

#### Why should we improve the resident food and dining experience?

- It brings pleasure to a resident's day and enhances their wellbeing and quality of life.
- It is important for residents regardless of what, where, how and when they eat.
- To increase the chances of a resident eating their meals
- Encourages social interaction and engagement with other residents and staff.
- An older person's experience of unplanned weight loss can have an impact on quality of life. Unplanned weight loss can increase the risk of serious health issues such as hip fractures, poor wound healing, loss of strength and mobility, malnutrition and mortality.

**Thank you to our dedicated staff who are committed to our values of teamwork and excellence and for responding to the challenge and recognising that person-centred care is at the heart of what we do.**



## OUR PEOPLE

### REGISTERED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF NURSING

We are excited to have had two Registered Undergraduate Student's of Nursing (RUSON) commence during December. Sophie Brokenshire will be at Skipton and Imogen Thorne at Beaufort.

A RUSON works in acute or subacute care and aged care settings as part of the healthcare team, helping nurses to provide patient care. RUSON's work under the delegation and supervision of registered nursing staff, and may help with a range of activities such as patients' daily living activities, keeping the ward organised and safe as well as some basic administration. RUSON's work is governed by a duties list and position description which clearly outlines the tasks that they are permitted to undertake. The scope of practice for RUSON's has expanded during the pandemic, with the role now well recognised in public health services in Victoria.

RUSON's must be currently enrolled at a university undertaking an undergraduate nursing degree, registered with AHPRA as a student nurse and have successfully completed the first year of a Bachelor of Nursing.

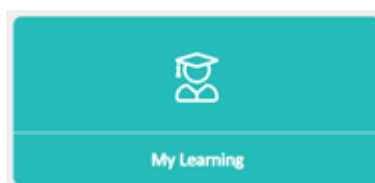
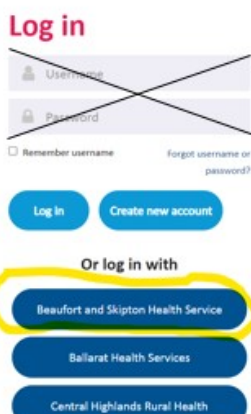
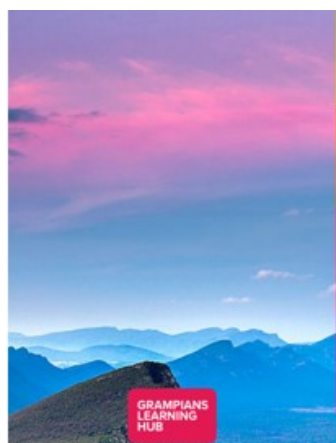
### ENROLLED NURSE GRADUATE PROGRAMS

January will see the start of two Enrolled Nurse Graduate Programs within our organisation. One is a six month in house program to support new graduate EN's. The other program is in collaboration with East Grampians Health Service and is a one year program with four month rotations into Beaufort. Our staff will be an incredible resource for these new graduates and the Education team thank you for your continued support as they learn their roles.

### 2023 MANDATORY TRAINING

2023 Mandatory Training should be completed by 31 March 2023. We are now using the new online learning portal.

Access is still via the Grampians Learning Hub tab on the intranet. Your username is your BSHS email address and your password is the same as your BSHS computer login.



← Click the My Learning tab to see what you need to complete.

**If you have any issues accessing the platform please email [kim.stevens@bshs.org.au](mailto:kim.stevens@bshs.org.au) or talk to the education team.**



**Beaufort & Skipton**  
Health Service

To be a vibrant  
provider of care

# WHERE TO FIND SAFETY DATA SHEETS

- 1 BSHS INTRANET
- 2 APPLICATIONS
- 3 SAFETY DATA SHEETS

[intranet.bsbs.org.au/SitePages/Applications.aspx](http://intranet.bsbs.org.au/SitePages/Applications.aspx)



**BSHS - WORK SAFELY**

Values: **We Care** Teamwork Compassion Accountability Respect Excellence

## OUR QUALITY & SAFETY

### THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR AGED CARE

From 1 December another recommendation from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety has been made law and comes into effect with the introduction of the Code of Conduct for Aged Care. The legislation surrounding the Code can be found in the Federal Register of Legislation.

#### The code applies to:

- ➔ Approved providers of Aged Care - including providers of residential, home care and flexible care services.
- ➔ Aged care workers who are, employed, engaged or volunteers of the provider and those who are employed, engaged or volunteer through a contractor or subcontractor of the provider to provider care or other services to consumers.
- ➔ Governing persons of Aged Care providers - Board members and Chief Executive Officers.

#### The Code consists of eight elements and states “when providing care, support and services to people, I must”:

- 1 Act with respect for people’s rights to freedom of expression, self-determination and decision-making in accordance with applicable laws and conventions
- 2 Act in a way that treats people with dignity and respect, and values their diversity
- 3 Act with respect for the privacy of people
- 4 Provide care, supports and services in a safe and competent manner, with care and skill
- 5 Act with integrity, honesty and transparency
- 6 Promptly take steps to raise and act on concerns about matters that may impact the quality and safety of care, supports and services
- 7 Provide care, supports and services free from, all forms of violence, discrimination, exploitation, neglect and abuse and sexual misconduct
- 8 Take all reasonable steps to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, discrimination, exploitation, neglect and abuse and sexual misconduct.

**All staff are required to read and sign the Aged Care Code of Conduct Acknowledgment form and return to Erica Smith (People and Culture Manager) before Friday 6 January 2023.**



**MEDICAL PRACTICE &  
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES**

*Christmas*  
**PERIOD CLOSURES**

We would like to wish our community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and advise our Christmas period closures

**Skipton Medical Practice  
will be closed on**

Monday 26 December  
Tuesday 27 December  
Monday 2 January

**Beaufort & Skipton Community  
Health will be closed on**

Monday 26 December  
Tuesday 27 December  
Monday 2 January

**Limited services available on**

Wednesday 28 December  
Thursday 29 December  
Friday 30 December

