

Minutes

Date: 2 November 2023 **Time:** 7.30 pm **Venue:** Mannum District Hospital Day Centre and virtual attendees via Facebook Live

Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network Governing Board Annual Public Meeting 2022

Present: **Board Members** – Dr Peter Joyner (PJ), Fred Toogood (FT), Claudia Goldsmith (CG), Mel Ottaway (MO), Richard Hearn (RH)

Executive Staff – Wayne Champion (WC); Craig Lukeman (CL); Paul Worley (PW), Brad Birleson (BB)

Community/HAC – 17 in attendance at Mannum Hospital Day Centre and many in attendance via Facebook

Secretariat: Jeanette Brown (JB), Leah Muir (LM), Bree Bitomsky (BBy)

Traditional Acknowledgement *We would like to acknowledge the Nganguruku and Ngaiwang traditional custodians of the Land and waters we are meeting upon today. We respect their spiritual relationship with their country and acknowledge that their cultural beliefs are an important focus of their past, present and future. We also pay respect to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people in attendance from other areas.*

ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS
1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME	
Introduction & Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WC provided acknowledgment, conducted introduction and welcomed all in attendance. ○ Apologies: Elaine Ashworth, Sonia Waters ○ Noted that, whilst not yet tabled in Parliament, the Minister's Office have advised that copies of the RMCLHN 2022-23 Annual Report could be disseminated at the Annual Public Meeting. ○ Overview provided of the RMCLHN region and services.
2. MINUTES OF 2022 ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING	
2022 Annual Public Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Noted the minutes of the Annual Public Meeting held 26 October 2022, noting that the minutes were confirmed at the Governing Board meeting held 25 November 2022.

3. RIVERLAND MALLEE COORONG LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK GOVERNING BOARD REPORT

RMCLHN
Governing
Board
Report

Board

- Report provided by Board Chair, Dr Peter Joyner.
- Overview of the role of the Governing Board and the RMCLHN governance structure.
- **Achievements and highlights**
 - Continued to support our consumers, aged care residents and communities through the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with restrictions eased during the year, the closure of vaccination clinics in late 2022, and the closure of the Berri drive-through screening clinic in March 2023, after two years of operation.
 - Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) vaccine rollout (nearly 7,000 JEV vaccinations).
 - River Murray Flood Event – from late 2022 with Renmark Paringa District Hospital at risk, and residents relocated to other aged care sites or to higher ground within the facility.
 - Continued aged care focus including Aged Care Standards and accreditation events, and the implementation of Aged Care Reforms arising from the Royal Commission recommendations.
 - Monitored the RMCLHN Strategic Plan through the RMCLHN Operational Plan.
 - Celebrated the RMCLHN 2023 Awards, including NAIDOC Awards.
 - Supported our Health Advisory Councils (HACs) and their advocacy work for our communities.
 - Continued our commitment to Aboriginal Health and Reconciliation including supporting further large-scale Aboriginal artwork across RMCLHN.
 - Expanded the Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence (RACE) including the employment of 12 new doctors across hospitals and general practice, and the commencement of a RACE Clinical Leadership Program.
 - Progressed the Riverland CSSD Hub and Spoke project.
- **RMCLHN Plans and Strategies**
 - Monitored the REFLECT Reconciliation Action Plan 2022-2023
 - Launched the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2022-2025
 - Launched the Diversity and Inclusion Plan 2022-2025
 - Developed a Mental Health Services Plan 2023-2028
 - Developed a Digital Health and Information Strategy 2023-2026
 - Developed an Aged Care Preliminary Business Plan
 - Developed a Strategic Asset Management Plan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Developed a Mannum Services Plan. ▪ Challenges and Areas of Focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Aged Care Accreditation, safety and quality</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continued to be a major focus for the Governing Board during 2022-23 ○ Diligently monitored and identified challenges in residential aged care and supported changes to achieve required standards ○ Monitored the implementation of Aged Care Reforms. ▪ <i>RMCLHN National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) accreditation, safety and quality</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continued preparedness for accreditation under the NSQHS Standards during the year. ○ Short notice assessment held recently and RMCLHN passed the event with a couple of minor measures we will address. ▪ <i>Staff recruitment, retention and wellbeing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vision for growing our own workforce. ○ RACE – continued expansion. ○ RMC CARES telehealth system. ○ Follow up RMCLHN Staff Survey. ○ RMCLHN recruitment campaigns. ○ Staff reward and recognition strategies.
<p>4. RIVERLAND MALLEE COORONG LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK REPORT</p>	
<p>RMCLHN Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report provided by CEO RMCLHN, Wayne Champion. ▪ Year in Review – 2022-23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This year has again highlighted the resilience of our staff, their ingenuity and unwavering dedication to supporting the health and wellbeing of our consumers and communities. ○ It has been an exciting year of growth and evolution as a Local Health Network as we’ve continued to provide innovative care through research, medical and clinical education. ○ It has also been a challenging year with the continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) and the Murray River Flood event.

▪ **Key Achievements and Initiatives**

COVID-19 Pandemic

- We continued to support our communities to stay safe and well
- We acknowledge our workforce who continued to display amazing commitment and resilience.
- Recognition pins were provided to all RMCLHN staff members as a thank you. All sites were visited in August – September 2022 by CEO and Governing Board representative to present the pins.
- Gradual easing of restrictions.
- COVID-19 vaccination clinics closed in late 2022.
- COVID-19 Drive-Through Screening Clinic at the Riverland General Hospital in Berri closed in March 2023 after administering 47,622 COVID-19 swabs.

Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV)

- Pivoted from COVID-19 vaccine to JEV vaccine rollout.
- Worked with Communicable Disease Control Branch, SA Health.
- Administered almost 7,000 vaccinations.
- Nursing team travelled over 14,000 km to deliver vaccines at 112 clinics across 10 locations.

Murray River Flood Event

- Supported communities and staff impacted by the flood event across the LHN.
- Renmark Paringa District Hospital the only health service impacted.
- A levee erected after the 1956 flood protects the hospital.
- In late 2023, the flood level reached a height where parts of the hospital would be flooded should the levee fail.
- Relocation of aged care residents to other aged care sites in RMCLHN or to higher ground within the facility.
- Relocation (and return) supported by SA Ambulance (SAAS) and occurred with minimal disruption to residents, and their families and carers.
- Proud of everyone involved in our Murray River Flood response.

Social Media

- Continued social media growth through Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn.
- Significant role to keep community informed during the COVID-19 pandemic, JEV vaccination rollout and Murray River Flood event.
- Excellent medium to promote our services, organisation, events and staff.
- Enabled engagement with the community, generally and for specific topics.
- Delivered latest research to clinicians and communities through RACE Grand Rounds.

Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence (RACE)

- We continued to develop RACE integrating research, teaching and clinical care with the vision to be a centre of clinical excellence and to grow our own workforce.
- RACE has attracted over 30 Trainee Medical Officers (TMOs) since commencement.
- TMOs work across the LHN in hospitals and general practices in Mannum, Murray Bridge, Lameroo, Waikerie, Loxton, Barmera, Renmark and Berri.
- Successful four year accreditation with South Australian Medical Education and Training (SA MET)
- Development of RACE Clinical Leadership Program.
- Expansion of research projects, including role in the Australian Teletrial Program.
- Hosted RACE Showcase event in March 2023.

Quality and Safety

- Aged Care remains area of focus.
 - Facilities at Barmera, Renmark, Loxton and Mannum assessed through the year and plans for continuous improvement developed.
 - Implemented the Commonwealth Government aged care reforms arising from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (in residential and community services).
 - Transferred Mannum residential aged care services to Aminya Village.
- Accredited against the Aged Care Quality Standards and Food Safety Programs, National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Practice Standards and National Safety and Quality Service Standards
- Undertook Root Cause Analysis (RCA) investigations.

Aboriginal Health

- Working to increase employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.
- Integration of Aboriginal Family Birthing Program with the Midwifery Model of Care

- Continued Yarning Circles to engage and consult with the community generally and on specific topics including contributing to the development of an RMCLHN Aboriginal Health Strategy.
 - Commissioned artwork at the Riverland Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Centre in Barmera and the Berri Child Health and Development building.
 - Participation in Aboriginal co-designed research project targeting diabetes.
 - Commitment to address racism including reporting through the Safety Learning System (SLS).
- Nursing and Midwifery***
- Following successful Riverland General Hospital pilot, the Midwifery Group Practice Model of Care was launched at Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital in late 2022 and at Loxton Hospital Complex in June 2023
 - Expanded the Transition to Professional Practice Program (TPPP) Nurse Graduate Program with 39 RNs (including two Mental Health RNs) and four Registered Midwives
 - Delivered on election commitment to establish senior palliative care nursing roles in regional South Australia
 - Recruited a Nurse Practitioner in the Riverland and a Nurse Practitioner Candidate at Murray Bridge.
- Workforce***
- Undertook second all of staff survey.
 - Annual Awards celebrated achievements of many staff, volunteers, HAC members, GPs and partners, and this year's RMCLHN Lifetime Achievement Award recipient was Kathleen Gregurke.
 - Established the RMCLHN Scholarship Program.
 - Developed staff Wellness Webinar Series and Workplace Wellbeing achievements the Area of Focus award category in 2023 RMCLHN Awards.
- Corporate***
- Minor works building refurbishment projects (\$0.70 m).
 - Asset Sustainment projects (\$2.3 m).
 - Biomedical Equipment (\$0.38 m).
 - Implemented carbon footprint tracking.
 - Developed Master Plan for Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital.

5. RIVERLAND MALLEE COORONG LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK FINANCE REPORT	
RMCLHN Finance Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report provided by Chief Finance Officer, RMCLHN, Craig Lukeman. ▪ Detailed financials available in the Annual Report ▪ Finance Report 2021-22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ End of year \$0.932 million favourable ○ Total Expenditure for 2022-23 \$218.6 million ○ Net Assets 2022-23 \$111.263 million
6. QUESTIONS	
Topic - Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Topic – Mental Health What challenges lie ahead in mental health in the future? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We recently released the Mental Health Strategy. ▪ Mental Health is a problematic area with a lot of different providers providing services at different levels. ▪ Having an integrated approach is important but will always be complex. ▪ Important to be able to provide choices for consumers. ▪ The information systems in health are a challenge as they are disjointed and we do not have access to State-wide electronic medical health records. However, we are working towards Electronic Medical Records for mid-2024 in our LHN. We will then be able to obtain previous medical history from within SA Health but not information on services provided by Non-Government Organisations (NGO's). ▪ The LHN has invested in an additional clinical psychiatrist and also an additional clinical psychologist, which was part of the flood crisis response, and Consultant Liaison Nurses in the Emergency Department. ▪ Providing support to people living in isolated communities and areas is a challenge. <p>How do we make services available across the LHN for the clinical psychologist and psychiatrist?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Through referral pathways with GP's able to make referrals.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Emergency Triage and Liaison Service (ETLS) is another pathway.▪ It is also important to promote community led activities such as mental health first aid.
7. CLOSE	
Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ WC thanked everyone for their attendance.▪ If there are further questions, they can still be asked online, and we will answer those online.▪ Please advise if there is anything people would like done differently for the next public meeting.

Meeting Close: 8.15pm

Signed:	Peter Joyner	
	Chair	16 Nov, 2023 11:29:13 AM GMT+10:30
Date:	/ /2023	