



PHN Pilots and Targeted Programs

Activity Work Plan 2025/26 - 2027/28



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Greater Choice For At Home Palliative Care

ACTIVITY PRIORITIES AND DESCRIPTION

PROGRAM KEY PRIORITY AREA

Aged Care

AIM OF ACTIVITY

This Activity aims to improve the provision of palliative care and end-of-life services for residents in the Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN region with a focus on greater choices in quality, appropriate at-home services. The Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN will achieve this by improving the integration of care between health providers across the public, private and community sectors, creating greater awareness of the palliative care services provided in our region and increase awareness and uptake of Advanced Health Care Planning. The PHN will also establish mechanisms for quantitative and qualitative data collection and outcome measurements.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

Activities will improve coordination and communication between services, across organisational boundaries and between public and private sector providers. We will continue mapping the primary, secondary, and tertiary care services across the region, including levels of service and service areas.

The PHN will:

- Continue to review existing Health Pathways platform for both regions to ensure palliative care pathways and referral information is accurate and optimal for the range of supports across the region.
- Build on the existing West Moreton Care at End-of-Life Collaborative and to continue to grow the Darling Downs Care at End of Life Collaborative action plan to address gaps in capacity and capability to provide quality care for people in our region at the end of life.
- Host forums for health professionals and communities that addresses a specific issue regarding care at the end of life for older people in the West Moreton and Darling Downs region.
- Continue to scope a pathway/orientation program for care at the end of life for new nursing students/staff in the West Moreton region. Initial scoping revealed a need to further develop a map/framework of what education resources are currently available to identify gaps in existing knowledge and avoid the duplication of resources. A steering committee for this action has been established in early 2025.
- Provide Care at the End-of-Life Collaborative Forums to review existing action plan priorities and scope further actions moving forward to inform their work in the Darling Downs and West Moreton regions.
- Develop strategies to increase the uptake and use of Advance care plans across the Darling Downs and West Moreton Region. These strategies will include workshops, development of resources, surveys, and stakeholder and community engagement.
- Work with local government and community groups to codesign an approach to compassionate communities that draw on their strengths resources and resilience to deliver holistic care to those experiencing death, dying, caregiving, loss and bereavement. Additionally, this approach will build capacity to care for people approaching the end of life.
- Work with priority populations within the Darling Downs and West Moreton regions, in particular Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to support dying on country and implementing Advance Care Planning in a timely manner.
- Build community awareness around talking around death and dying and increase the availability of resources to support this awareness.

CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION:

Through an initial scoping process undertaken in 2021, the following key stakeholders were consulted. Further liaison with these stakeholders will continue throughout this activity.

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From the Darling Downs Region:

- CNC Palliative Care, Darling Downs Health
- Palliative Care Physician, Darling Downs Health
- CNC Rural and Remote Palliative Care Telehealth, Gold Coast Health (SPaRTa)
- CNC Palliative Care Coordinator – Southern Downs, Darling Downs Health
- CNC Palliative Care Coordinator – Western Downs, Darling Downs Health
- Director of Nursing, Toowoomba Hospice
- CNC Palliative Care Coordinator – South Burnett, Darling Downs Health
- Director of Nursing Medical Services Toowoomba Hospital, Darling Downs Health
- CNC – SPACE Project, Darling Downs Health
- Nurse Practitioner Palliative Care, St Andrew's Hospital Toowoomba
- Clinical Nurse – Palliative Care, St Andrew's Hospital Toowoomba

From the West Moreton Region:

- CNC SPACE Project (NUM – Palliative Care), West Moreton Health
- Manager Clinical Education, Queensland Ambulance Service
- CEO/Director of Nursing, Ipswich Hospice
- Academic Researcher, USQ
- Advance Care Planning CN, West Moreton Health
- Executive Director Community & Rural, West Moreton Health
- Policy and Projects Officer, Palliative Care Queensland
- Palliative Care Physician, West Moreton Health
- CNC Nurse Educator – SPACE Project, West Moreton Health
- Director and Nurse Practitioner, Ipswich Nurses
- CEO, St Andrew's Hospital Ipswich
- CEO, Ipswich Hospital Foundation

In addition, the following group/s are expected to be convened and utilised as a resource during the project for consultation:

- GCfAHPC PHN Community of Practice
- Community Working Group/s
- GP / Health Service Provider Advisory Groups

NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRIORITY

Joint Regional Needs Assessments undertaken with West Moreton Health and Darling Downs Health 2025/26 – 2027/28.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRIORITY	Identified Need
Effective continuity and integration of care	Partnerships and Integration
Accessible and responsive services to support patients with complex care needs associated with ageing	Care across the lifespan
Older persons able to live well in their preferred place of residence	
Geographic equity in service access and availability for people living in rural areas	Priority populations



Strengthening Medicare – General Practice Grants Program

ACTIVITY PRIORITIES AND DESCRIPTION

PROGRAM KEY PRIORITY AREA

Workforce

AIM OF ACTIVITY

This activity will establish, administer, and manage the Strengthening Medicare – General Practice Grants Program (the GP Grants Program) to support general practices and eligible Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to expand patient access and support safe, and accessible, quality primary care.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

Our PHN will work with the Department and key stakeholders to provide one-off grants (based on practice size) to support general practices and eligible ACCHS to expand patient access and provide better, safe and accessible quality primary care.

The grants will be available for general practices and eligible ACCHS to make investments in innovation, training, equipment, and minor capital works in one or more of the three investment streams below:

- Enhance digital health capability – to fast-track the benefits of a more connected healthcare system in readiness to meet future standards.
- Upgrade infection prevention and control arrangements – to ensure infectious respiratory disease (e.g. COVID, influenza) patients can be safely seen face to face, and/or
- Maintain and/or achieve accreditation against the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners Standards for General Practice, under the General Practice Accreditation Scheme – to promote quality and safety in general practice.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRIORITY

Darling Downs and West Moreton Live Health Needs Assessment 2022/24.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRIORITY
Increasing access and coordination or care
Increasing workforce capacity and wellbeing



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**Local Integrated
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