



Above: L to R: ECCQ Chairperson Alton Budd, Minister Hinchliffe, and CEO Peter Last at the breakfast



Above: Staff and guests at the breakfast

Diversicare Celebrates 30 YEARS of Services

Diversicare staff and guests celebrated 30 years of service at a breakfast held on the 22 August at Queensland Parliament House hosted by Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Hon Stirling Hinchliffe.

Minister Hinchliffe congratulated Diversicare for 30 wonderful years of delivering culturally inclusive aged care.

"To reach such a wonderful milestone is a testament to the dedication of your management team and staff and reflects the growing demand for your leadership and services", he said.

New Chief Executive Officer of ECCQ Peter Last spoke in-depth about Diversicare, its history from a small ECCQ program to a division of ECCQ employing a culturally diverse workforce in offices across Queensland.

"By 2025, it is estimated that twenty-five percent of the ageing population will be from a non-English speaking background", he said.

"It is therefore imperative that all organisations like Diversicare are recognised as vital partners to all levels of government to meet this challenge.

"By way of example, Diversicare delivers services to consumers from 40 different cultural and language backgrounds."

At the breakfast, ECCQ launched a booklet titled, Diversicare, Celebrating 30 Years of Care, available to read online through ECCQ's website. <http://www.eccq.com.au/publications/diversicare-30-years-care/>

One hundred and seventy two people attended the breakfast including 17 Members of Parliament, government department representatives and many CEOs, general managers and staff from the community and health sectors, community leaders, members and stakeholders.



Past Chairperson Agnes Whitten, Diversicare staff member Christine Perera and ECCQ Honorary President Serge Voloschenko OAM.



Guests at the breakfast

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Know someone who would like to receive our services?

To receive new services, register online at www.myagedcare.gov.au or call 1800 200 422. Ensure you list Diversicare as your preferred care provider

Wanting to update your Home Care Package?

Please contact your Co-ordinator on 1300 348 377 to ensure you are utilising your Home Care Package funds. We strive to ensure you are receiving the care and services you choose, to meet your needs to remain living in your home.

New Phone menu at Diversicare

Diversicare has recently introduced a new phone menu to deliver a more efficient customer service experience and to cut down on the telephone waiting time. The newly improved phone system will ensure your call is answered promptly with three friendly options. We look forward to your feedback.

Enduring connection with Diversicare

Wiesia and home care worker Goshia



You could say eighty-eight year old Wiesia knows Diversicare like the back of her hand. Having previously worked and volunteered for Diversicare, she has come full circle and is now a Diversicare client, 21 years after retiring from the organisation.

Originally from Poland, she was a child movie star starring in several Polish movies before WW2. One was called the Lieutenant's Daughter where she played a four year old child and all these years later you can still find footage of her movies on YouTube.

Wiesia has a long and rich history. At the age of 13 she and her mother laboured in a German concentration camp picking stones out of fields to grow vegetables. After the war Wiesia and her mother were reunited with Wiesia's brother Artur in a displaced persons camp and where she also met her future husband, Stanislaw.

Stanislaw and Wiesia married in 1948 and in 1951

with one child Regina, and heavily pregnant with her second child Richard, they left Europe to make a life in Australia. Once settled in Brisbane, the couple went on to have another child George.

In 1991 she starting working as well as volunteering with Diversicare as an Assistant to the Polish Coordinator Frank Routyna and then Wieslawa Drozd working with Polish clients and coordinating respite activities.

Wiesia retired from Diversicare in 2012 when acute blindness forced her to stop working.

Wiesia starting receiving services from Diversicare in 2015 for domestic assistance as a CHSP client. When her coordinator Beata noticing that Wiesia's health had deteriorated further and she required a higher level of care, Wiesia was approved for a Level 3 home care package. Wiesia now receives domestic assistance once a week and weekly culturally appropriate one-on-one social support from her home care worker Goshia, who speaks Polish. Goshia takes Wiesia shopping, to medical appointments and to the local library where they actively seek out audiobooks for Wiesia to listen to.

Wiesia also attends Polish respite at West End CONNECT twice a month which she thoroughly enjoys. Wiesia is looking forward to Christmas and her family coming together at her home with her 3 children, 8 Grandchildren and 8 Great Grandchildren.

Diversicare home care worker Goshia says Wiesia is great company to keep: "She is always looking forward and for someone who has been through so much, has a wonderfully positive attitude."



New ECCQ CEO

Mr Peter Last has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland, Diversicare's principal organisation. Since his appointment in August this year, Peter along with the Board of Directors has lead a review of the strategic direction of ECCQ for 2020 and beyond.

Peter says he looks forward to putting our consumers first and always treating our community and colleagues with respect, compassion and kindness. Peter says he is passionate about social justice, equality and human rights and believes that ECCQ can provide the support needed to bring about social change.

Peter has over 30 years experience in a broad range of government, acute health care, not-for-profit organisations and aged care services.

He has extensive experience in clinical and corporate governance, high level risk management, strategic policy advice and implementation of quality standards and accreditation.

He has a Masters in Health Services Management from Griffith University, a Bachelor of Business in HR Management, from QUT, A Certificate in Mediation from Bond University Law School, a Certificate in Critical Care and Trauma Nursing from BCIT, Vancouver, Canada and a Registered Nurse Certificate from the PA Hospital.

Peter says he is looking forward to leading and supporting the ECCQ team to embrace opportunities for growth and to manage the challenges ahead.

Organisational annual report

The 2018/2019 ECCQ annual report is now available to view. This publication showcases the activities and achievements of Diversicare, ECCQ and Berlasco Court over the past 12 months.

To view the publication please go to <http://www.eccq.com.au/publications/>

If you would like an annual report mailed to you please telephone ECCQ on 3844 9166 for your copy.

Three steps to get ready - Prepare for storm season



**get
ready**
QUEENSLAND

Summer is upon us so it's time to prepare your storm emergency plan.

1. Have a Plan - An emergency and evacuation plan will ensure everyone in your household knows exactly what to do if the worst happens. You might want to involve your neighbours in developing your plan - neighbours who are elderly or have special needs may need your assistance. Equally, neighbours may also provide assistance to your household if required.

2. Pack Supplies - if, as a result of a natural disaster, you are unable to leave your home for an extended period, due to an emergency such as a storm, flood or a cyclone, your emergency kit contains a collection of essential items that will equip your household for up to three days of isolation.

Your kit should be kept in a sturdy waterproof storage container and stored in a safe place in your home. Make sure that it is easy for all members of the household to access (except young children - make it childproof if necessary). Make a note of the emergency kit's location on your household emergency and evacuation plan.

3. Make sure you're covered - Since 2011, Queensland has been hit by more than 70 significant natural disasters. Many people have found out too late that they did not have enough home and contents insurance cover for their property and assets. Both renters and homeowners should check their insurance policies and if in any doubt contact their insurer to find out what coverage they have in regards to natural disasters.

For more information and to download your emergency plan go to:

<https://www.getready.qld.gov.au/get-prepared/3-steps-get-ready>

West End CONNECT celebrates 6 years of service

Diversicare's respite centre West End CONNECT celebrates 6 years of service in January 2020. Over the years its been the venue for many respite attendee celebrations such as countless client birthdays (with at least a dozen respite attendees reaching significant milestone birthdays from 90 to 100!). It's been the venue for exercise, relaxation, cultural days, Chinese Olympics and food and health information sharing. We look forward to celebrating our six years with our respite visitors in 2020.

Dutch Clients at Adams Continental Smallgoods



Christmas is upon us!

Every year for many years some of our respite groups have been taking an annual shopping trip to Adams Continental Smallgoods located at Carole Park.

The respite groups like to stock up on traditional products from their home country. We managed to capture the lovely owner Margaret with the Dutch South group recently. Every year Margaret welcomes our groups and gives our respite attendees free nibbles.

We would like to thank Margaret for the long association with the Diversicare respite centre.



Chinese clients celebrating Melbourne Cup Day



*To All Our Wonderful Diversicare Clients,
We Wish You Peace And Joy For The Coming
Festive Season.*

*Best Wishes From All The Staff And
Volunteers At Diversicare*

