



7th May 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AMID COVID-19

In the light of the evolving situation concerning the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and global efforts to contain it, the Australian Nursing Home Foundation (ANHF) remains focused on the health, safety and wellbeing of our elderly community, staff and volunteers. Our decisions continue to be based on the paramount interest of the ANHF family. ANHF has established a COVID-19 Task Force and will continue providing updates to our communities and staff through different channels including the ANHF website as situation develops.

In particular, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all our staff. Over the past three months, I acknowledge that our managers and staff worked diligently around the clock, demonstrated resilience and comradery to place us in the fortunate position we are in, that is 100 days COVID-19 free. This is made possible by the collective support and commitment from our valiant frontline staff to the understanding of family members adhering to our safety and wellness enhancing policies and procedures such as respecting the visitor access code, undertaking flu vaccination etc.

As you may be aware, a number of aged care residential nursing homes across Australia have confirmed cases of COVID-19, despite best endeavours to contain it. Our compassion and thoughts are with those who are affected. This serves as a reminder, and we take lessons from these experiences, that we must continue to formulate our response to COVID-19 with utmost precaution and not become complacent to the challenges that are still ahead of us.

On a positive note, as COVID-19 continues to impact communities, people are coming together to help one another now more than ever. We have used a number of creative and flexible means to support our seniors to combat loneliness and social isolation through smart technologies, online platforms and chat groups, whether they are living at our facilities or in their own homes.

I understand that there will continue to be new announcements from the Australian Government affecting the aged care industry and we will continue to provide updates as details come to hand to the ANHF family.

Once again, thank you to all our staff and volunteers for your support and dedication as we continue to work together as a community to help overcome this pandemic. In the interim, keep well and stay safe.

Best regards

Ada Cheng

Chief Executive Officer

