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Aged care building program ensures quality care

The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory has announced a \$300 million redevelopment of its Aged Care capital works programs across NSW, Queensland and the ACT.





ABOVE, L TO R: AGED CARE IS STILL AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE SALVOS' WORK - WE'VE BEEN IN AGED CARE MORE THAN 100 YEARS.

The Director of Aged Care Plus for The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory, Major Cec Woodward said: "This is the most significant capital works project ever undertaken by The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory and we are pleased to join with our financial partners Westpac in this very important community initiative.

"The Salvation Army has been providing accommodation and care for older Australians for more than 100 years. We aim for the highest possible standard of care in all of our aged care facilities consistent with specified Government standards, providing both a contemporary and friendly environment for all residents.

"Over the next three years it is our intention to open seven new facilities in Sydney, Canberra, Newcastle, Brisbane and Ipswich. These plans are being conducted in partnership with Thomson

Adsett Architects. They will be built with environmentally sustainable design principles. These new centres will complement the current facilities and, in some cases, replace or extend existing buildings."

The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory's current services include over 1400 residential and respite aged care beds. The new projects will include 417 independent living units. In addition to these new facilities, The Salvation Army has applied to the Federal Government to increase its involvement in Community Aged Care Programs.

Major Woodward said: "We are able to make this move due to the sound management processes within The Salvation Army structure. We are committed to aged care in the long term and confidently expect that these upgrades will help meet the need for aged care facilities."

Merv's story

Merv* is an amputee, who entered The Salvation Army's Bethany Residential Aged Care at Port Macquarie a year ago. His wife desperately wanted to keep caring for him, but was growing frail herself. Because of their physical limitations and the design of their home, showering and even dressing Merv was becoming dangerous.

Merv entered Bethany as a high care resident, but he grew stronger and more mobile and was recently able to move to low care accommodation.

Seeing how well his health had improved, staff suggested he try an electric wheel chair. As a result, Merv, who is in his mid 70s, has now moved from being bedridden to fiercely independent, enjoying a rich social life.

Bethany Assistant Manager and Chaplain, Captain Cheryl Carpenter says: "We regularly see residents who come to us having really struggled and they blossom here.

"We also recognise that when a family walks through that front door, they will have often started a grieving process because life for all of them has changed," she says. "We provide a holistic approach which involves caring for our residents, family and staff in body, mind and spirit."

* NAME CHANGED

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The Salvation Army Aged Care Plus

Following is an overview of existing Aged Care Plus sites across NSW, ACT and Queensland, as well as the proposed new sites.

Existing sites

1 Rosedurnate • Parkes, NSW

- 29-bed nursing home (high care) and 45-bed hostel (low care)
- Low care respite services on site
- 17 self care units.

2 Bethesda • Rockhampton, Qld

- Low care hostel offering 50 individual rooms with garden areas
- Short term, low care respite.

3 Carpenter Court • Merewether, NSW

 42-bed low care hostel offering long term care and short term respite care.

4 Montrose • Balmain, NSW

 44-bed specialist low care hostel for men (specialist care for those with

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FROM TOP: AGED CARE LOCATIONS FROM THE WEBSITE; THE NEW DEVELOPMENT GILL WAMINDA IN GOULBURN.

behavioural problems due to brain damage or psychiatric or behavioural disabilities).

5 Mountain View including Burrangiri and Karingal Court

- Narrabundah and Rivett, ACT
- 67-bed low care hostel, including a 10-bed dementia unit, short term respite care and day care.

6 Moyne • Canowindra, NSW

 29-bed nursing home (high care) and 44-bed hostel (low care). There is also short term respite care.

7 Pacific Lodge • Dee Why, NSW

• 59-bed low care hostel, as well as short term respite care.

8 Riverview Gardens • Riverview, Qld

• 50-bed nursing home (high care), 118-bed hostel (low care), 25-bed dementia unit, 26 independent living units and 10 Community Aged Care Packages.

9 Bethany • Port Macquarie, NSW

- 50-bed nursing home (high care) and 40-bed hostel (low care).
- Short term, low care respite.

10 Warrina Village • Chelmer, Qld

- 40-bed nursing home (high care),
 42-bed hostel (low care) and 12 independent living units.
- Permanent residential and respite care.

11 Weeroona Village • Bass Hill, NSW

- 36 self care units and 46-bed low care hostel.
- Short term, low care respite.

12 Woodport • Erina, NSW

- 96-bed high care nursing home, 79-bed low care hostel, and 67 self care units.
- Short term respite care offered in the nursing home and hostel.

New sites & redevelopments

 Narrabundah (formerly Karingal Court), ACT

It is anticipated that Narrabundah Aged Care Facility formerly Karingal Court, will begin upgrades in the second half of 2007. This centre will provide 74 independent living units. Clients can choose to stay in 1, 2 or 3 bedroom units.

Chapel Hill (formerly Alkira), Qld
 It is anticipated that Chapel Hill
 Aged Care Facility will commence
 construction in the second half of 2007.

 This centre will provide 124 Residential

Aged Care Units and eventually 160 Independent Living Units, with 1, 2 or 3 bedrooms. The centre will provide high, low and dementia care.

• Riverview Gardens, Qld

It is anticipated that Riverview Gardens will undergo significant rebuilding commencing in the second half of 2007. This centre will provide 40 new high care residential aged care beds to replace the older style beds.

• Macquarie Lodge, Arncliffe, NSW
The Salvation Army anticipates that
Macquarie Lodge will commence
expansion in the second half of 2007.
This expansion will add 90 High
Care Residential Aged Care beds
to the existing 45 low care and 40
Independent Living Units. Macquarie
Lodge provides High, Low and
Dementia care as well as 1, 2 and 3
bedroom independent living units.

Collaroy, NSW

It is anticipated that The Salvation Army will rebuild its Aged Care Facility at Collaroy in the first quarter of 2008. The centre will provide 119 Residential Aged Care beds and 125 Independent Living Units, with 1, 2 or 3 bedrooms. Collaroy Aged Care offers both High and Low care services.

• Gill Waminda, Goulburn, NSW

The Gill Waminda Aged Care Facility was newly opened in June of 2007. This is the first completed facility as part of The Salvation Army's \$300 million project for expanding its Aged Care Facilities. This centre provides both high and low care services and has 103 beds.

• Weeroona Village, Bass Hill, NSW Weeroona Village has commenced expansion in August of 2006. This expansion will add 60 new high care Residential Aged Care beds to the

existing 45 low care beds. • Morisset, NSW (a new site)

It is anticipated that, The Salvation Army will commence building its Aged Care Facility in Morisset in the second quarter of 2008. This centre will provide high, low and dementia care services. The centre will have 126 Residential Aged Care beds and 174 Units which are 2 and 3 bedroom, duplex bungalows providing services on demand.