

# Supportive Families & Friends Association

# **Newsletter**

Vol.12 No 2 July 2021

# President's Message

I hope that you and your family are keeping well in these unusual times!

Good news! At a meeting last Friday with State and Territory Ministers for Disability, Linda Reynolds, Minister for the NDIS, announced that the Government will not introduce proposed independent assessments for participants in the NDIS. She committed her government to consult on any proposed amendments to the Scheme. Our letter sent to the Victorian Minister, Luke Donnellan, in advance of that meeting is attached.

The Australian Government is failing to meet its commitment to vaccinate residents and staff in disability accommodation as a high priority. Many residents and staff are yet to be vaccinated. On 5th July, Minister Hunt reported that only about 12,000 of about 25,000 residents had received at least one dose.

Meanwhile, the Transfer of government-managed group homes to non-government providers remains incomplete. Whilst the Victorian Government retains ownership of most homes, there is still no SDA Residency Agreement (tenancy) in place. SIL Residency Agreements are also not yet finalised. Vacancy management policies, governing the filling of resident vacancies in homes, are also yet to be finalised.

Your Committee remains committed to advocating on these and other important issues. Our Annual General Meeting is a time to elect a Committee for the coming year. Leo Waterfall has indicated that he will not continue on the Committee due to health reasons, and we thank him for his dedicated service. Please contact myself or our Secretary, Bev Libbis, if you may be interested in joining our Committee?

All being well, our AGM will be held in person and not online!

### **Management Committee**

Phil Lipshut President Ph 0438948994
John Hosie Vice President Ph 0402518494
Bev Libbis Secretary Ph 0458775954

Vacant Treasurer

Leo Waterfall *Committee Member* Ph 95703195 Bruce McBroom *Committee Member* Ph 0418446853 Cathy Catlow *Committee member* Ph 0413754328

## **Association Meetings 2021**

Monday 26 July 2021 at 2 - 4 pm at Nadrasca AGM

Further meetings TBA

Meetings are normally held at: NADRASCA, 52-62 Rooks Rd, Nunawading.

## **Positions on Committee**

All Committee positions are declared vacant at the AGM. Please call our Secretary, Bev Libbis, for a Nomination Form. We expect Committee meetings to be held using Zoom

#### For latest news:

Supportive Families & Friends Association Inc. website: www.supportivefamilies.org.au

## **Subscriptions**

Subscriptions for 2020/2021 financial year are now due. Full fee \$10.00; Concession \$5.00.

For bank transfer:

BSB: 083 210 Account no. 179859084.

Please indicate your name and if payment is a subscription or a donation. Contact Bev if unsure about current financial status.