



NMHS Board Communiqué

August 2024

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 2 August 2024 at the Queen Elizabeth II medical Centre in the Noongar Season of Djilba.



Djilba is a transitional time of the year, with some very cold and clear days combining with warmer, rainy and windy days mixing with the occasional sunny day or two.

Board members present

Rebecca Strom, Board Chair
Jahna Cedar OAM
Assoc Prof Mathew Coleman
Angela Edwards
Renaë Farmer
Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick
Angela Komninos
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon
Dr Ian Rogers

Approvals and endorsements

- NMHS Statement of Intent 2023/24 quarter 4 report
- NMHS Board Code of Conduct

Events and achievements

- Launch of NMHS Strategic Plan 2024 to 2027
- Annual Gift of Life Walk as part of DonateLife Week 2024.

Visits and engagement

- Mental Health Commission Safeside Prevention breakfast

Our Community and Our People: embedding our values

Reflections on consumer feedback, as they relate to NMHS's values, are a monthly focus for the Board. The stories offer valuable insights to help us understand the needs and concerns of our community and provide learning opportunities to improve and deliver excellent health care.

This month we heard about a consumer experience at a Mental Health Unit, which highlighted the importance of effective communication and post discharge care plans. The Board reflected on the principles of continuous improvement to enhance quality of care outcomes for consumers.

Separately, the Board acknowledged positive feedback for the State Forensics Mental Health Services staff who demonstrated exceptional care and support to a patient in the Start Court program.

Presentations to the Board

The Board welcomed the Mental Health Commissioner who provided the Board with an overview of priorities for the Mental Health Commission for the next 12 months. The brief included advice about the range of reforms being implementation as part of the first stages of the Independent Governance Review as well as opportunities for the NMHS to work in partnership through the newly formed joint leadership group with all Health Service Provider Chief Executives.

The Board also received refresher integrity training on Public Sector standards from the Executive Director Governance and System Support, Department of Health. The session focused on updates to conduct and ethics following release of Commissioner's Instruction 40: Ethical Foundations, which have also been reflected in the revised Board Code of Conduct.

Board Chair and Chief Executive update

Our updates and considerations focussed on review of current issues and reports.

Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- Recognition of award winners across the organisation
- Attendance at the Mental Health Commission SafeSide Prevention event on 31 July, opened by the Minister for Mental Health
- June Health Service Performance Report





DonateLife WA Week 2024 – Gift of Life Walk
(L-R): Renae Farmer (NMHS Board member), Dr David Blythe (State Medical Director DonateLife WA), Robert Pulsford (A/Chief Executive, NMHS).



Rebecca Strom
BOARD CHAIR, NMHS

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 [Our Board and communiques](#)

 [Minister for Health's Statement of Expectations](#)

 [NMHS's Statement of Intent](#)

Next Board meeting

Friday, 6 September 2024
Osborne Park Hospital, Stirling

Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Launch of the NMHS Strategic Plan: Unleashing our Potential 2024 to 2027
- The organisation's first Short Notice Accreditation Assessment Pathway (SNAAP) against the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards by Mental Health Services
- Welcome to the new NMHS Chief Finance Officer
- Recognition of DonateLife week 2024, with a Gift of Life walk held Sunday 28 July
- NMHS National Aboriginals' and Islanders' Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) week 2024 celebrations
- Highlights, risks, and areas of focus from each of the operational areas

Board Committee updates

The minutes and a summary from each of our Board Committee meetings were provided by the respective Chairs.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Committee heard from Manager Emergency Management Unit, Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group, which briefed the Committee on NMHS's preparedness to manage emergency codes.

In addition, the Committee received updates on cyber security, fraud prevention activities, and policy governance updates.

Reports on legislative and regulatory compliance obligations, as well as the progress of internal and external audits were also tabled.

Finance Committee

No meeting held in July.

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

No meeting held in July.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The focus of the monthly meeting was Joondalup Health Campus (JHC), with the Committee receiving a presentation from the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Clinical Services and Quality and Risk Manager on safety and quality data. Separately, JHC performance indicators were discussed.

The monthly consumer experience, safety and quality performance and trends, with focus on activities to improve patient safety, were also reviewed.