



MIDDLE RIDGE UNITING CHURCH
264 Stenner St Middle Ridge

16th – 18th June 2023

BlueCare Chaplaincy Report – Regional Remote South

- Praise that the refurbishment of Residential Aged Care Facility Garden Settlement is going to schedule.
- Praise that we have been blessed with a replacement for Barb and staff are encouraged in the process. Residents are excited to have someone that will be able to play a guitar and sing. (not my gifting)
- Continue to pray for the staff as they journey through another round of organisational change. Making BlueCare Better – you may have seen the advertisement on TV for BlueCare.
- Pray that dialogue and implementation can improve when organisational change is being considered and in process.
- Pray for volunteers current and ones yet to come.

While journeying along the roads between the vulnerable people in our communities both Barb (while she was still with us) and I have been Blessed by the changing landscape of creation. This I believe has helped us to be present and listen to those that we support. Barb continued to provide mission and Values training to the staff in the communities and this was generally well received by staff. The ongoing challenge of having sufficient staff available and trained continues to be an area of concern. It appears to be a swinging pendulum.

Residential refurbishment at Toowoomba Garden Settlement is going well. This current weekend of presbytery will be the end of stage 4 and stage 5 will begin in the next week. Moral within residential has lifted since the appointment of a new Residential Service Manger Lesley Grant. Lesley is both eager and keen for relationships to work well between the church and BlueCare.

There has been a recognition of service of staff recently in the facility and the residents loved being a part of this celebration. There remains to be ample opportunities for volunteers to come onboard for BlueCare. Church services continue to be provided in the facility from Anglicans, Catholic and Uniting people.

Over the last little while BlueCare have been undergoing a transformational change. The latest step is called Making BlueCare Better. This is occurring to return BlueCare to its roots. Like all change and implementation processes it is difficult to create something that satisfies everyone. While the implementation process could have been better, it is always easy to make that comment after the fact.

The support of staff by chaplaincy continues to be a vital part of the services provided. My time continues to be across both residential and community, until Peter starts it is spread across a little more community. This has allowed those that have required the monthly support in either Care & Wellbeing or Grief & Loss continue to happen.

I continue to provide a Thought of the week, and other encouraging messages to staff and management around the region. This has been commented on by staff and they appreciate that this occurs.

Professional development and supervision continue to happen.

<Recommendations>

1. That the report be received.

Report Submitted by:

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If you have questions, please email before the meeting.