

NEWS UPDATE for residents & families

Transfer of Disability Services in Victoria

DECEMBER 2018

New Faces

It's been a great pleasure to say 'hello' to many families and residents at the recent house meetings. For those I have yet to meet, I am Paul Csoban, the General Manager for Victoria Operations for Possability.



I have worked for many years, in state, national and international operations, in the health and community services sector in Not For Profits such as The Red Cross, Cancer Council and Palliative Care as well as Government and Corporate environments including community nursing, medical science, public and environmental health and forensic services.

Services will also be ably supported by our recently appointed senior regional managers in the West Melbourne, Loddon and Ararat/Stawell regions, Phillip Buck, Danny Stone and Flavia Prospero respectively.

Phillip has extensive experience in other disability service providers and TRY Children's Service, while Danny also brings experience as a manager of health and clinical services, having worked in the mental health sector as a nurse and manager. Danny has a sound understanding of the Bendigo community service sector, where he will be based.

Flavia has a background in communication, health promotion and community engagement having worked in local government and organisations such as Intereach and Epic Assist.

It was really encouraging to see how positive everyone was about the transfer at the house

meetings. While there will be new senior managers, residents and families were happy that each house will keep the same staff and there will be minimal disruption for residents.

Thank you for making us feel so welcome and we look forward to working more closely with you all in 2019.

Paul Csoban
General Manager, Victoria Operations



Image: Staff at the official Sunshine Office opening.

A Safe and Smooth Transition

Thank you to family members who attended the information sessions in August/September. We heard clearly from families that you want minimal disruptions to residents during the transfer. Our plans reflect this and we have invested significantly to ensure the way things are done today remain largely unchanged after the transfer to Possability.

We are committed to ensuring:

- Current resident services continue to be delivered without interruption
- Client funds are managed consistently through trustees as they are today
- Employee training is kept to key areas of where change is requested or necessary. For example, we have received positive feedback about how we can reduce administration. This means more time to focus on quality support for clients.

Conference Builds Skills and Collaboration

The inaugural Building Opportunities Building Communities Conference, recently presented by Possability, brought together leading national and international thinkers and practitioners in support practices for people with disability and children and youth in Out of Home Care.

The conference held at the University of Tasmania on 5th and 6th December was the first major initiative of Possability Research Institute.

We were particularly pleased that we could provide the opportunity for six current operations managers in Victoria, as well as our new senior managers, to attend this conference. It was a valuable opportunity for them to hear about best practices in support and staff skill development. We will be incorporating learnings into our training and development of staff.



Image: (from left) Executive General Manager Nicola Crates with Victorian Managers Danny Stone, Paul Csoban, Flavia Prospero, Kathleen Connolly and Philip Buck at the conference.

Next Steps - Looking Ahead to 2019

In early 2019, we will start working with residents and families to develop new support plans using the Possability Practice Framework.

We will discuss with you how support services can best reflect the goals and aspirations of each resident. We will also be looking at how we can support staff working with residents to gain more skills and achieve better outcomes for each individual. We look forward to gaining your insights in this important planning meeting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Merry Christmas 🍪 🌿 🛎️ 🎄

The end of the year is a good time to pause and reflect on the year gone by and the year ahead. I hope it has been a good year for you. There is no doubt that a big highlight for Possability was being chosen by the Victorian Government for the service transfer and we are excited about working with you next year.

On behalf of everyone at Possability, I'd like to wish you a happy and safe Christmas. I hope that you find some time to do what makes you happy during the festive season, whether that is spending time with family and friends, indulging in your favourite activities or simply taking some time out for yourself.

Best wishes,

Drew Beswick
Chief Executive Officer