



A MINISTRY OF OUR LADY'S NURSES FOR THE POOR

June 2021

Dear friends of the Brown Nurses,

Our friend and colleague, Scott Maguire, has left us for a well-earned retirement. Some of you would have come to know him as “the voice” of the Ministry for the past seven years. Aside from being a highly regarded member of our team, he played an important role in the lives of many of our clients with kind words of encouragement over the phone, the occasional outing to the car wash for a coffee, or more firmly worded instructions regarding domestic chores.

Eunice Reid has stepped into the role of Administration Manager and we are sure our donors will welcome her, as we do.

We continue to receive referrals for clients who have complex needs – medical, social, and spiritual. One recent case illustrates the need for our nurses to be versatile clinically, but also build up useful networks within the local community. The gentleman concerned was referred to us by DCJ Housing due to “property maintenance” (a polite euphemism for squalor) and rental arrears. As we found, he struggles with a combination of poor vision, chronic skin and lung disease, and a heavy drinking habit.

With some initial encouragement, he made a start on clearing items out of the unit but most of it went no further than his back patio. When he was then hospitalised, it presented an opportunity for a thorough clean. This was organised through the combined efforts of a hospital social worker, another NGO service, Housing, and our team. He switched wards a couple of times to allow sufficient time for the job to be completed, but mission (eventually) accomplished.

One of our female clients, a diminutive and physically frail individual, recently embraced supermarket home delivery – much to our surprise due to her isolative lifestyle. This arrangement came about because she eats a very restricted diet of 3-4 varieties of tinned food – 14 tins of each purchased religiously every two weeks. The weight of the tins, and delays at the checkout when staff members insist on scanning *every* tin, called for lateral thinking!

Thank you, as ever, for your continued interest in the welfare of our clients.

1 Samuel 16:7

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

Sincerely,

Wendy Peddell RN
Director of Services

PO Box 756, Broadway NSW 2007
brownnurses@brownnurses.org.au
www.brownnurses.org.au

T: 02 9518 6466
F: 02 9518 9644
ABN: 21 103 674 120