THE COLLECTIVE – MUCH STRONGER THAN THE INDIVIDUAL

JOIN TODAY OR RECRUIT A FRIEND

Support the Campaign:

1. Sign the Charter for Quality Aged Care
   Available from ACT ANF Office

2. Visit www.becausewecare.org.au

3. Contact the ANF to organise a workplace meeting.
   Ph: 6282 9455

AUTHORISED BY GED KEARNEY, AUSTRALIAN NURSING FEDERATION,
365 QUEEN STREET, MELBOURNE 3000
Aged Care Campaign Meetings have been scheduled in the following facilities:

- **Burrangiri**  Wednesday 8 April 4:00pm
- **Mountain View**  Wednesday 29 April 10:00am
- **Morshead Home**  Wednesday 29 April 2:30pm
- **Villaggio**  Wednesday 6 May 3:00pm
- **Carey Gardens**  Wednesday 13 May 10:30am
- **Upper Jindalee N/H**  Wednesday 20 May 10:00am

If you would like a meeting in your facility, please contact us.

Erryn PH: 6282 9455

Authorised by: Jenny Miragaya ACT ANF Branch Secretary
Because We Care .... About Aged Care

The ANF launches a major national campaign to put aged care in the national spotlight and give aged care nurses and carers the recognition they deserve.

The ACT ANF Branch participated in the national launch of the ‘Because We Care’ national Aged Care Campaign at Parliament House on March 17. There was a very strong ACT contingent comprising myself, some of the Branch Councilors and ACT aged care workers.

Within the nursing profession, aged care is often perceived as the poor cousin of the public hospital system. With lower wages, inadequate staffing and skill mix, misconceptions about the role, education preparation and the work undertaken by aged care nurses, and the often negative portrayals of aged care in the media, it is little wonder that aged care nurses feel undervalued, unrecognised and under rewarded for the hard work and dedication they invest in caring for older Australians.

The Because We Care campaign is aimed at raising the awareness and recognition level of Australia’s highly skilled and dedicated aged care nursing and care workforce, focusing on:

1. The right balance of skills and nursing hours so that nursing and care staff can provide quality care for every resident.

2. Fair pay for aged care nurses and care staff who are paid up to $300 per week less than nurses in other sectors.

3. Recognition of the professional skills of AINs and care staff through a national licensing system.

4. A guarantee that taxpayer funding is used for nursing and personal care for each resident.

Through the campaign the ANF will call on the support of key stakeholders across the industry, including union members and non-unionised nursing and care staff, the operators of aged care facilities and service providers, residents and families, individual facilities and the wider community.

‘Charters for Quality Aged Care’ will be distributed to workers, residents and families at aged care facilities across Australia.

ACT ANF Industrial Officer, Erryn Cresshull, and I will be visiting aged care facilities throughout the ACT, distributing information about the campaign and the Charters. Information and Charters are also available through the ACT Branch Office (please contact us on 62829455, or via email: inquiries@actanf.org.au).

The ACT ANF urges all members to support this national initiative and get behind their colleagues working in the aged care sector Because We Care. For further information, to view the DVD about the campaign or to send an online message to the Minister, log on to www.becausewecare.org.au.

Yours in solidarity

Jenny Miragaya
Branch Secretary
BRANCH COUNCILLORS

PRESIDENT (TCH)        Jill Parke
VICE PRESIDENT (TCH)    Janice Flaherty
SECRETARY (ANF)         Jenny Miragaya
EXECUTIVE: TCH 11A     Maria Trudinger
ACT COMM HEALTH         Denise O'Toole
CALVARY (5E)            Sandra Mahlberg
COUNCILLORS
MOUNTAIN VIEW           Maureen Willis
TCH 14B                 Karen McInerney
QEII FAMILY CENTRE      Nancy Smith
AGED CARE               Athalene Rosborough
MENTAL HEALTH           John Acs
CALVARY PRIVATE 6W      Lucy Owen

WORKPLACE REPS

CALVARY HEALTH CARE WPRs
WARD 5E                  Sandra Mahlberg
MATERNITY                Cheryl Thuillier
CALVARY PRIVATE 6TH FLOOR 6W  Lucy Owen

ACT COMMUNITY HEALTH WPRs
FALLS CLINIC TCH        Denise O'Toole
BELCONNEN               Rosemary Riley
MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH   Cathy Hermes

THE CANBERRA HOSPITAL WPRs
TCH 14B                  Karen McInerney
                         (Leave of Absence)
TCH CCU                  Janice Flaherty
TCH 14b                 Marcia Kane-Lee
GEU                     Judith Dodd
12B                     Fran Anderson
TCH – THEATRES          John Steed
CENTRE NEWBORN CARE     Leanne Ehrlich
NIGHT DUTY              Louise Bottega
PAEDIATRICS             Fiona Cameron
MENTAL HEALTH COMM      John Acs
BRIAN HENNESSEY REHAB   Gai McKibbin
QEII FAMILY CENTRE      Nancy Smith
AGED CARE WPR’s         Jenny Bolin
AMITY                   Gary Giles
BRINDABELLA GARDENS     Cathie Harris

If you would like to be a WPR for your workplace, or would like more information, please contact the office.
As you may be aware, International Nurses and Midwives Week is celebrated from 5-12 May.

The ACT ANF will be celebrating the selfless and magnificent contribution our Nurses and Midwives make to the ACT community with a number of events and giveaways!

On Tuesday 12 May (International Nurses Day), the ANF are holding a morning tea at our office between 10-11am. All refreshments will be provided. Our members are most welcome to come to our office, meet the friendly office staff and peruse scrapbooks and old journals to learn the history of the ANF here in the ACT.

At the morning tea, we will also be drawing a free raffle. ALL members of the ACT ANF will be automatically entered into the draw. A representative from Members Equity will draw the raffle. Fantastic prizes on offer include:

- Five members will win a dinner with ACT Branch Secretary Jenny Miragaya, to be held at La Piazza restaurant on a date to be arranged
- 2 MP3 players. (kindly donated by Members Equity)
- Westfield Vouchers
- Movie Tickets
- Wine
- Hampers
- Flowers
- Chocolates

The ANF (ACT Branch) is proud to announce they are the sponsor of the inaugural ‘Innovation in Nursing and Midwifery’ Award, which will be awarded as part of the 2009 Nursing and Midwifery Awards program.

The presentation ceremony is to be held on Thursday 7 May 2009 at Rydges Lakeside.

Financial Planning Seminars for ANF Members

The ANF, in conjunction with HESTA and Members Equity, is also seeking to hold a series of Financial Planning Seminars for ANF members in the near future.

It is anticipated that two general FREE seminars will be held in the first instance:

- Wealth Creation – Planning for the Future
- Retirement Seminar

We are currently taking expressions of interest from members wishing to attend one or both of these sessions to be held late May / early June.

Please call the ANF office to register your interest. 6282 9455.

It is anticipated that individual appointments for consultations will be organised between members and representatives from Members Equity and HESTA at the general seminars.
Because we care .... About Aged Care

NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN THE ANF OR RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER.

The ACT ANF will be visiting ACT Aged Care Facilities over the coming months.

Please become involved in the campaign:
Visit the aged care campaign website www.becausewecare.org.au

• Email the Federal Minister for Aging – Justine Elliot. Visit the website and send a message to the Minister
• Talk to your colleagues and encourage them to get involved and join the ANF
• Sign the Charter for Quality Aged Care
• Write to your Federal MP
• Contact the local media

When talking to your colleagues remember there are very good reasons for joining the collective strength of the ANF:

• Protection against unfair treatment at work;
• Improved Workplace Health and Safety;
• Better wages, better conditions;
• Membership benefits – visit www.membersconnect.com.au;
• Formulation of better workplace laws

The ANF provides expert advice and assistance to members on professional practice and employment matters related to wages, hours of work, working conditions, Health and Safety issues, Workers’ Compensation, superannuation and training and education.

Belonging to the Australian Nursing Federation builds on our collective strength to grow and develop to improve the working lives of our members and nurses and nursing generally.

ACT ANF members are entitled to receive:
• The ANJ and branch Newsletter and free online access to the Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing;
• Industrial advice and advocacy, particularly in relation to the negotiation of collective agreements and participation in projects arising out of these agreements and committees over-seeing the implementation of these agreements;
• Legal advice on any work related or personal matter;
• Professional advice and advocacy;
• Financial assistance and access to the ANF library resources.

And ANF membership is tax deductible!

“THE COLLECTIVE—MUCH STRONGER THAN THE INDIVIDUAL.”
News in Brief….

Because we care .... About Aged Care

Although a great deal of the Branch’s time and resources are currently being devoted to the National Aged Care campaign, preparations for bargaining continue, as do preparations for International Nurses and Midwives week, May 5-12.

Enterprise Bargaining update.

Collation of the information provided by members through the ANF members’ survey has been completed. ANF Industrial Officer, Erryn Cresshull, is currently analysing this data. The results will provide the basis on which the ACT ANF will prepare the various claims associated with Agreement negotiations throughout the year. As the ACT Public Sector Nursing and Midwifery Staff Union Collective Agreement will expire in September 2009, this has been a major priority for the branch. Public Sector members will be notified when a members’ meeting to discuss the claim is arranged.

TNCPH

The Agreement has passed the ‘No Disadvantage Test’ and is now operative.

Calvary Private

The Agreement has passed the ‘No Disadvantage Test’ and is now operative. Increased allowance payments and the back pay associated with these should now be progressed. Members are advised to contact the Calvary pay office in relation to these payments.

Uniting Care

Negotiations have commenced with the new manager.

Anglicare

The Industrial Officer, Erryn Cresshull, is progressing negotiations with Anglicare. ACT ANF met with Luke Vardenaga on 17-3-09. Anglicare is waiting to determine the direction of the NSW agreement. If the direction is not ascertained within 2 months then the current agreement is to be varied and extended.

Salvation Army

ACT ANF met with management on 18-2-09. The Salvation Army wants a unitary agreement. ANF has asked for wage increases to flow while Salvation Army put a formal position. Still waiting confirmation as to when this will happen.

ARCBS

The Agreement has passed the ‘No Disadvantage Test’ and is now operative.
Let's work together to build on our collective strength in 2009

If you are a current Financial Member of the ACT ANF you will be rewarded with a $25:00 Westfield voucher for EVERY new member you sign up

Included with the Membership Application form is a nominator form. When the new member applies for membership, fill in and return the completed nominator form WITH the application form

Once the new member's application has been processed by the ACT ANF you will receive your reward of $25:00 Westfield voucher mailed to your home address

All relevant forms can be obtained from the website: www.actanf.org.au or by phoning Helen at the office on 02 6282 9455.

Offer valid until 30th June 2009