

Free pens: the 'write' choice for Uniting Yamba

Dear Member,

As many of you are aware, the federal government has cut billions from aged care budgets. It appears these cuts are being felt acutely at Uniting Yamba. HSU received a copy of a staff memo, dated 7 December 2018, that stated the following:

No Pen

The expectation is that you will carry a pen to be able to document on residents' charts, food records and labels. This is your job and I ask you to look at how you can improve yourself in this. I will offer a pen if needed. However, it is not Uniting's responsibility to provide them to all of you.

One could argue that if you are required to write on charts etc., that it isn't unreasonable for Uniting to indeed provide the tools to do so, particularly something so basic as a pen.

A recent check of the Officeworks website puts the price of black Bic pens at \$17.99 for a pack of 50. But if Uniting cannot carry the financial burden, then the HSU can fix this in the short term at least. As of today, the HSU will be shipping a pack of fifty HSU pens to Uniting Yamba. Members are reminded they need to look after these pens as the local organiser is on annual leave and won't return till after February 2019.

This is yet another example of the HSU working for you. For those not already a member, the writing is on the wall. It's time to put pen to paper and join the union and support the union that supports you. Join online at www.hsu.asn.au/join or ring our friendly membership team on 1300 478 679.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD