

HSU representatives meet with SCC management

Dear Member,

Today, HSU representatives met with Southern Cross Care management to raise members' concerns about a range of issues. A big thanks to Cheryl and Kim who spoke on behalf of members.

Workload and staffing

SCC management were informed about the chronic workload and understaffing issues, and the inconsistencies across the facilities. Weekend rosters and the lack of coverage of personal leave were also brought to their attention. Additional duties – like auditing residents, or serving food, have become the norm without consultation or support. SCC management has agreed to investigate, review any suggested improvements, and report back next Monday at a further meeting.

Payslips and additional leave

HSU representatives raised the ongoing issue of the additional week of annual leave not appearing properly on payslips. Again, SCC management will report back next week.

Christmas bonus and gifts from families

Last year's Christmas voucher was passed onto staff in February this year. Chocolates given to employees by families rarely make it to all employees. It's these small things that destroy morale – and these are things that are easily fixed. They demonstrate a breakdown in communication and respect. SCC management committed that vouchers would be out before Christmas and suggested that any chocolates etc should go to the staff room.

Christmas roster

Despite commitments to fix the Christmas roster, there still seem to be inconsistencies about who has Christmas Day off and who wants to work the public holidays. Some guidelines were discussed, but ultimately SCC needs a consistent policy for the holiday period – it happens every year at the same time of year and all members are seeking is fairness.

We will meet again next Monday at 2pm to hear an update from SCC management on the issues raised.

If you know someone who isn't a member, let them know what HSU members are fighting for on their behalf. If they feel strongly about better working conditions at SCC, they should join the fight by joining the HSU at www.hsu.asn.au/join or phone 1300 478 679.

If you have any other issues you would like raised, contact your local HSU representatives Cheryl and Kim or your HSU Organiser Peter McCabe via peter.mccabe@hsu.asn.au.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD