

MEDIA RELEASE

22 October, 2015

Resident looks forward to providing input to health service

THE Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service has welcomed its first community member representative to the Patient Safety and Quality Committee.

Retired educator and academic Dr Jim Madden was appointed to the voluntary role and looks forward to contributing to better health care outcomes for local residents accessing services at the Toowoomba Hospital.

Dr Madden responded to the call out for professional community members earlier this year.

“I’ve always led a busy life,” Dr Madden said.

“My latest project was compiling and publishing a history of the scouts in the Darling Downs. With that now finished, I was on the look out for a new interest.”

Dr Madden has a varied professional background, which also includes a stint as a priest, a prison-based tutor and a school principal.

He has completed a PhD that looked at the local and social history of the Banyo seminary in north Brisbane.

However, in all of his varied roles or endeavours, Dr Madden has enjoyed contributing to the betterment of either individuals or organisations.

“I enjoy meeting people and getting into new areas,” he said.

“It’s almost too cliché to say, but I do enjoy a new challenge. And with my background, I would like to think I have something worthy to contribute.”

DDHHS Clinical Governance nursing director Alison Broadbent said she was looking forward to having Dr Madden on the Patient Safety and Quality Committee.

“We feel very fortunate that Dr Madden will be contributing and working with us to provide a better service,” Ms Broadbent said.

Earlier this year, Toowoomba Hospital General Manager Dr Peter Gillies called for volunteers to participate in a number of hospital committees.

“The opinions and feedback we get from consumers of our services is a vital aspect in improving the way in which we do business,” Dr Gillies said.

“We are pleased that community members like Dr Madden are taking a genuine interest in their hospital and its management.”

Positions are still available for interested community members on the Toowoomba Hospital Patient Safety and Quality Committee, Toowoomba Hospital Management Committee, Specialist Outpatient Services Committee and Toowoomba Hospital Consumer Advisory Group.

Community members could have a background in management or have corporate experience, but this is not essential. Ideally they will be comfortable reviewing and analysing reports and data, and have an interest in serving their community. They should also have good communication skills and confidence in a group setting.

For more information about the community positions contact Ms Alison Broadbent via email alison.broadbent@health.qld.gov.au

Caption: Toowoomba Hospital's Ali Broadbent with Patient Safety and Quality Committee member Dr Jim Madden.

Ends

MEDIA: Contact Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Media Team 4699 8547, 0438 702 328 or DDHHS_media@health.qld.gov.au