



St Anthony's Family Care

HEART matters



Easter 2019

An Update From Our CEO



Dear Friends,

Time at St Anthony's tends to move very quickly at the moment, and we are already busily working towards the Easter period.

Demand for our Disability Services continues to be strong

and it brings us a great sense of achievement to be able to continue the work of St Mary Mackillop in supporting children with disabilities to work towards their greatest potential.

We have been able to extend the services which we offer but continue to be limited by access to suitable facilities. Our plans to re-develop the premises are continuing and although we were required to make some changes to our Development Application which is lodged with Burwood Council, we are still hoping that a speedy approval in the coming weeks will

enable us to work towards our timeframe of commencing mid-2019.

The new facilities will enable us to do more good work with children aged from 0 through to 25 years. We recognise that each person is unique and therefore the service model which is appropriate for one individual may be different for another. It is for this reason that our new facilities will offer a much larger Early Learning Centre, an activity centre specifically for children and young people with disabilities and several short-term accommodation residences

It is through the support of all our donors, such as yourself, that this vision for St Anthony's future is set to become a reality. The impact of our donors and supporters makes this an accomplishment for which we all should be very proud.

May this season bring you an abundance of hope, joy and love. Wishing you a very happy Easter!

Joanna Najdzion
Chief Executive Officer

Message From Sr Carmel

It was enjoyable to come together recently for the annual luncheon of the Caring Hearts group. The many long-term supporters and donors of St



Anthony's exchanged stories and happenings, with old and new friends, and remembered the years of bygone days.

Lent is fast coming to a close and we look forward to the blessings of the risen Christ. May Easter greetings be with you all.

Sr Carmel Whybrow



A Bright Future...



Over the years, St Anthony's Family Care has had the opportunity to support the inclusion of many children with additional needs within its Early Learning Centre.

While we aim to provide a safe and supportive environment for all our children, it is always nice to hear how we have made a positive difference in the lives of a family. It can often be challenging meeting the varying needs of the children in our care, as each and every child is unique, and developing their fullest potential is our greatest priority.

When a child with a disability accesses St Anthony's Early Learning Centre, the team engage their extensive skills and experience and provide the special attention necessary, to enable the children to progress and make developmental gains prior to commencing school.

Many of our families provide us with feedback about their experience at St Anthony's and it is a great source of motivation for the staff to hear that their work and dedication has not only been valued but has also made a real positive impact.

Over the last two years we had the pleasure of having Roman enrolled in our Early Learning Centre and we would like to take this opportunity to share the testimonial his mother sent us as Roman made his transition to school in January 2019.

"By the age of 4 my son was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and he appeared to have difficulties in a number of areas of daily life. Roman was also diagnosed with Global Development Delay.

Afterward, we started to review multiple child care centres that we thought would assist with Roman's needs and we really felt a connection with St Anthony's Family Care team.

St Anthony's Family Care is not an ordinary child care centre. This is the second home that we wanted to be part of and they became a vital part of our family.

St Anthony's Family Cares team developed necessary steps for Roman that helped him to learn both individual and independent skills and progressed him to the next level.

He received exceptional care and he has developed a strong bond with his educators and other children.

His educational progress and social development skills have excelled because of their excellent educational programs and support of the fantastic team.

By the age of 6, Roman was given a cognitive test that diagnosed Autism Spectrum Disorder but was no longer said to have global development delays. We will forever be grateful for the excellent and hard work of the team of SAFC for giving Roman a chance to lead a fulfilling life.

Today, Roman is a boy with a bright future that has given us hope."

*Yours sincerely,
Family Locorato*

We hope that this has given our donors and supporters an insight in to the challenges that some of our families face and the way in which St Anthony's Family Care works in collaboration with families in supporting children. Each and every parent wants their child to have success and we are honoured to have had the opportunity to be a small part of Roman's life over the last two years.

Teresa Petrone
Manager Early Learning Services

For more information and to provide your feedback:

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St Anthony's Family Care

Thank You for your support in helping children with disabilities to reach their greatest potential...



Wishing you a happy & peaceful Easter Season.



Please return this form with your donation to St Anthony's Family Care
9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132

Title:..... Name:..... Phone:.....

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I am happy to help and enclose the sum of: \$20 \$30 \$50 \$100 Other \$.....
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I would like more information on Wills and Bequests.

I would like to donate via a monthly direct debit. Please forward me information on how to arrange this.



St Anthony's Family Care

You can also donate online at www.safc.org.au
by clicking on the donations link.