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A MESSAGE FROM
THE CEO/SECRETARY

A GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION

The recent International Council of Nurses Congress, held every four years, presents an invaluable opportunity, both to share work we are undertaking in South Australia and converge with some of the most prominent nursing leaders from across the world.

We can be proud the world has welcomed and recognised our efforts in driving evidence-based best practice, as well as in evaluating the cost savings delivered by the program.

Our work in researching staffing and skills mix arrangements in the aged care sector was also shared and generated interest.

There was a great focus at this congress on the nursing workforce—from health and safety, adequacy and migration issues and of course the relationship between staffing levels, skills mix and patient outcomes.

We were very privileged to hear Professor Linda Aiken address the congress on these matters having led much of the very best research in this area for decades. Her work has explored the relationship between staffing and patient outcomes in more than 30 countries, allowing for comparisons that would have been impossible without this breadth of research. The findings are both disturbing and validating.

Disturbing because her work confirms much of what nurses and midwives have felt and reported for years: that lower staffing levels mean that patients miss out on care, experience poorer outcomes and, worst of all, die at rates higher than in well-staffed hospitals.

She found that for every extra patient allocated to a nurse’s load there was a seven per cent increase in the mortality rate of patients. So, if a nurse cares for six rather than four patients, the mortality rate rises by 14 per cent.

Disturbing in that the patterns of inadequate staffing and skills mix leading to poor patient outcomes has been demonstrated over several years in many different countries and across almost every area of nursing practice. Validating, because Prof Aiken found that higher staffing arrangements, such as those in SA public hospitals, delivered safer and better care.

Validating too, because she found that patient care was also better where the number of degree-prepared nurses was higher. Given that there continues to be ‘noise’ around the benefits of the old hospital-based programs, it is very timely for this aspect of the research to be recognised.

Professor Aiken finished her address to the Congress with a call for action. The research has been undertaken and the evidence is clear. It is time for us to use the evidence and require policymakers and managers to act.

That call for action resonated across the ICN Congress with Prof Aiken receiving a standing ovation—not just for her presentation but for the body of work she has led.

It reinforces our own agenda in this vital area. We will continue to consolidate and extend safe staffing regulation in our public sector agreement. We will redouble our efforts to improve staffing levels and skills mix that will ultimately improve care for older Australians living in residential aged care. We must also look at how we can influence better staffing arrangements in other sectors.

The needs of nurses, midwives and patients are all served by action in this area.

Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars AM
We’re all familiar with the story of Dr Gill Hicks and the tragic circumstances that led to the Adelaide-born Londoner losing both legs—incidences that sadly appear to be increasingly commonplace in the world today.

But, you might not be fully aware of the role Gill says nurses played in helping her to rebuild and recreate her “second life” after the 2005 London bombing.

This is just one insight we’ll have the opportunity to learn more about when Gill presents at the ANMF (SA Branch) Annual Professional Conference this August.

“The greatest life skill that I’ve been shown was from the nursing teams that I’ve come to know through my ongoing relationship with healthcare and hospitals,” Dr Hicks says.

“This life skill,” she says, “is empathy.”

“The impact of nurses on how I’ve chosen to react and respond to my permanent injuries is profound.”

Gill was the last living victim rescued from the series of bombing attacks that killed 52 people and injured 700 more. With injuries so severe and both legs amputated below the knee, she was not expected to survive.

But survive she did, and the experience has seen her ‘second life’ become one dedicated to making a difference to others in how they face significant change and adversity.

Gill now dedicates her time to motivating people via national and international speaking engagements and her MAD (Making a Difference) For Peace organisation that seeks to create a world that responds with ‘five positive things for humanity for every act of terrorism’.

MAD For Peace was borne from the realisation that one positive action, when multiplied, has a significant and widespread effect.

ANMF (SA Branch) is honoured to welcome one of the world’s most thought provoking, powerful and life affirming presenters to the line-up of renowned speakers at this year’s Annual Professional Conference.

“We can’t control certain events or dramatic change in life – but we CAN control how we react and respond.”

Register at www.anmfsa.org.au to secure your place at South Australia’s most significant event on the nursing and midwifery calendar.

Gill’s presentation will focus on ‘Owning Change – The Difference a Shift in Mindset Makes to an Ongoing Relationship with Physical, Mental, Environmental and Professional Change.’

Don’t miss out on the opportunity to absorb her insights into change management at a time many nurses and health care workers are preparing to embrace a new working future at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The two-day ANMF (SA Branch) conference accounts for 14 CPD hours and will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from 2 to 3 August.
The five-day event explored nurses’ leading role in the transformation of care, focusing on universal health coverage, staffing and skills mix / regulation, the Sustainable Development Goals and human resources for health.

The Congress provides a networking opportunity for nurses to share their knowledge and leadership across specialities, cultures and countries.

Professional Practice, Regulation and Socio-Economic Welfare – the three ICN pillars – framed the event’s program.

The ANMF (SA Branch) presented information to the ICN Congress on:

- Development of the Australian Residential Aged Care Staffing and Skills Mix Model.
  
The paper described the stages of research, which produced the resident care profiles, interventions and associated timings that were ultimately validated through separate and independent studies.

- Does evidence-based practice make sense? – An Australian economic evaluation of the BPSO Program. This paper provided a model for the measurement of evidence based changes in nursing practice and the financial impacts of nursing care, which is increasingly important within a financially constrained system.

ANMF (SA Branch) representatives also attended sessions hosted by the Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario (RNAO) during the Congress.

As well, RNAO held a one-day symposium with representatives from 13 countries across the globe that are either already leading the BPSO Program in their jurisdictions or about to commence their evidence-based practice journeys.

As part of this symposium, ANMF (SA Branch) Director, Operations and Strategy Rob Bonner used the RNAO international platform to lead a session on the Economic Evaluation of Best Practice Spotlight Organisation (BPSO), providing a unique forum to exchange knowledge with others on advancing nursing and improving health and healthcare around the world.
Evidence based practice

- The experience to date mixed
- Includes projects (topic focused)
- JBI
- BPSO®
ANMF South Australian Branch has been doubly involved in enterprise bargaining negotiations for Boneham Aged Care Services staff, simultaneously negotiating separate agreements for the facility’s Nursing and Personal Care Attendants (PCAs) workforce.

While ANMF South Australian Branch had previously been negotiating the Nurses’ agreement at Boneham Aged Care Services, it is the first time we have represented PCAs during the bargaining process at this site in a bid to reach a new agreement.

Boneham is a not-for-profit organisation located at Millicent in the state’s south-east responsible for the ongoing management and planning of Mary Cecelia Hart Court, a residential aged care facility for 90 residents.

Member PCAs were grateful to ANMF South Australian Branch in ensuring they were strongly represented and could negotiate better working conditions.

One such member was Anthea Kirkland, who says an ANMF South Australian Branch presence onsite for enterprise bargaining purposes was hugely beneficial to a process that can be quite daunting.

“As a member, it was great to be able to have that extra support where you can openly ask an ANMF South Australian Branch Officer questions about your entitlements including pay rates, shift work and training,” Ms Kirkland says.

“You definitely have a better understanding of what you are voting for when it comes to a new agreement.”

Some of the improvements under the proposed new agreement for Personal Care Attendants include annual wage increases and back pay, agreement on rostering system and working hours, shifts for full-time and part-time workers, recognition of worksite representatives and leave entitlements.

Improved conditions to nurses were also offered, affecting full-time, part-time and casual employment at the worksite, wages, rostering and leave entitlements relating to family and domestic violence.

ANMF (SA Branch) CEO/Secretary Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars AM says the bargaining process is a great outcome and is an example of how ANMF South Australian Branch can step up the fight and help negotiate a fair deal for its members.

“Membership has increased by almost 90 per cent over the last nine years, with ANMF South Australian Branch now representing more than 20,000 members,” Ms Dabars says.

“Negotiating new enterprise agreements for nurses, midwives and PCAs, to secure better staffing levels, job security, conditions and wages, is certainly a driving force behind our growth in membership.

“Protecting working conditions and entitlements for our members is a top priority.”

If you or a colleague is interested in finding more about joining the ANMF South Australian Branch, call 8334 1902 or email membership@anmfsa.org.au

Recognition of ANMF South Australian Branch efforts during negotiations and the impact of collective bargaining on better outcomes led to ANMF (SA Branch) membership increasing three-fold at the Boneham Aged Care Services worksite.
Nurses and PCAs have voted on the new enterprise bargaining agreements:

- **Nurses Agreement** - 86% voted yes
- **PCA/Ancillary Staff Agreement** - 100% voted yes

Both agreements have now been lodged with the Fair Work Commission for approval.
From a field of 30,000 nurses and midwives state-wide, Awards were presented to those nominated who demonstrated excellence in practice, leadership and innovation in education and clinical research.

The Gala Awards Dinner held on 12 May at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre coincided with International Nurses Day and followed celebrations on 5 May for International Day of the Midwife.

The Awards are open to nurses, midwives or nursing and midwifery teams working in a speciality area or healthcare environment in the public sector, private sector, primary health care, rural and remote, aged care, education, research or private practice.

Winners were announced across eight categories, with five Premier’s Nursing and Midwifery Scholarships also awarded.

Viv London from Port Pirie was honoured with the Excellence in Leadership Award for her role as a healthy living team leader for Country Health Connect.

The Registered Nurse and Midwife has been recognised for her outstanding achievement as a leader and motivator over the past 20 years in various roles at Port Pirie Regional Health Service.

“I was definitely shocked when my name was called out and so honoured that the country area has been recognised for this Award,” Viv says.

“I’m not taking all the credit though, as this is a team effort. When you have a good team behind you, you can achieve a lot.”

Viv who started out as an enrolled nurse at Port Pirie Hospital three decades ago, before becoming a registered nurse and then working in various leadership positions, says she loves mentoring staff and helping them map out and develop their career paths.

“I always strive to ensure my team is happy and we have open communication because this translates into positive patient outcomes.”

Viv’s achievements include establishing two quiet rooms at Port Pirie Hospital for mental health patients, working with local Elders and an Aboriginal artist to create a hospital room and wall mural to encourage Aboriginal patients to remain in hospital longer, until medically discharged. She also played a pivotal role in the rollout of the Well Women’s Clinic at regional sites, the creation of a student-led clinic model for university students who attend placements in Port Pirie and the recent lymphedema service.

Also taking out a top honour at last month’s awards presentation was Clinical Practice Consultant – Forensic Nurse Tracey Markham from the Women’s and Children’s Health Network, awarded a Premier’s Nursing and Midwifery Scholarship for the study of innovative practice within her chosen field.

The scholarship will fund an overseas observational study tour for her to explore evidence-based best practice leading to positive client care outcomes.

“As the only permanent Forensic Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner in South Australia based at Yarrow Place in North Adelaide, the leading public health agency responding to adult rape and sexual assault, I am looking to explore how we can evolve this area of nursing here,” Tracey says.

“I’ll be travelling to the US and Canada visiting sexual assault services based at universities, hospitals and private centres to learn first-hand about their forensic nursing models of care which are achieving improved court outcomes for vulnerable women,” she says.
"Victims of interpersonal violence and sexual abuse require specialised care from people such as forensic nurses who provide nursing care, collect evidence and give testimony that can be used in a court of law to assist in the prosecution of perpetrators.

"Forensic nursing is certainly an area that is still in its infancy in Australia compared to the US and Canada. It’s a diverse growing field for a registered nurse to specialise in, if they have a commitment to improving health care for vulnerable victims of crime."

ANMF (SA Branch) congratulates all winners of this year’s South Australian Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards:

- Mary Buckskin: Nursing and Midwifery Award for Excellence in Practice: Aboriginal Nurse/Midwife – Jessica McKenzie
- Excellence in Practice: Enrolled Nurse - James Carroll
- Excellence in Person Centred Care: Team Award (Registered Nurse/Registered Midwife/Enrolled Nurse) - CHSALHN BloodMove
- Excellence in Practice: Registered Midwife - Michelle Marsh
- Excellence in Practice: Registered Nurse - Georgina Paterson
- Excellence in Innovation in Education (Registered Nurse/Registered Midwife) - Trudi Verrall
- Excellence in Innovation in Clinical Research (Registered Nurse/Registered Midwife) - Associate Professor Alison Hutton
- Excellence in Leadership (Registered Nurse/Registered Midwife) - Viv London
- Tracey Markham, Jorja Terrell, Vicki Moss, Steven Bruni and Lauren Goudas were recipients of the 2017 – 2018 South Australian Premier’s Nursing and Midwifery Scholarships.

For more information about the Awards and the South Australian Premier’s Nursing and Midwifery Scholarships 2017/18, please visit: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/NursingandMidwifery
ANMF (SA Branch) remains in dispute with Country Health SA Local Health Network (CHSALHN) over concerns registered nurses in some instances are being directed by management to delegate medicine administration to unregulated healthcare workers.

It is understood Direct Care Workers (DCWs) are managing medication administration for high-care residents or residents who have not been identified as able to self-administer (but require assistance).

CEO/Secretary Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars AM says ANMF (SA Branch) has serious concerns as to how this change has been implemented without due consideration of the professional responsibilities of nurses.

“The main issue of contention is whether this process is safe within the scope of practice of nurses as set out in the relevant guiding principles, professional standards and legislation,” Ms Dabars says.

“As it stands, we believe this practice is placing the registration and livelihoods of our members at significant risk.”

She says CHSALHN has not provided any comprehensive documentation, which explains the current process to assist in the resolution of this matter.

Meanwhile members affected by the issue at Port Pirie Hospital and Health Services (Hammill House) and at Mannum and Waikerie hospitals have been undertaking action to secure the safe administration of medication in Aged Care facilities within CHSALHN.

Members have been wearing purple scrubs and t-shirts as a visual demonstration of their concerns and distributing a petition to facility patients, family, and/or carers detailing their reasons for action while providing an assurance that patient care will not be affected.

Despite numerous attempts by ANMF (SA Branch) to alert CHSA to the issue and outline member concerns, CHSALHN has failed to adequately respond, prompting ANMF (SA Branch) to escalate member action.

“ANMF (SA Branch) maintains medication administration by Direct Care Workers must immediately cease,” Ms Dabars says.

“We steadfastly support and advocate for quality care in all health services both in the public and private sectors.”

We will continue to keep you updated on this matter as it progresses. In the meantime, if you have any professional practice concerns at your site, please contact ANMF (SA Branch) Duty Officer on 8334 1900.
As the absence of integrated plans to manage patient flow continues to plague emergency departments at most major Adelaide hospitals, ANMF (SA Branch) members at Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) are starting to see signs of improvement.

Successful ANMF (SA Branch) campaigning for additional measures to effectively manage such elevated levels of demand has brought about a radically different working environment for FMC emergency staff.

ANMF (SA Branch) CEO/Secretary Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars AM says the strategies negotiated with Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN) are now starting to bring a much-needed reprieve for staff members who have been struggling to cope with an emergency department over capacity for several weeks now.

“It wasn’t unusual for Flinders Medical Centre to have up to 90 patients in the Emergency Department (ED) with four or more ambulances on the ramp and another 25 patients waiting for an inpatient bed,” Ms Dabars says.

“It was an all-too-frequent scenario that posed a significant safety risk to staff and patients.”

One month on, and various measures identified by members, advocated by ANMF (SA Branch) and agreed by SALHN are starting to make a real impact on managing patient flow in the ED. These include:

- The introduction of a Patient Transport Team to streamline the patient transfer process—a service that has since been expanded from weekdays to weekends.
- Proactive identification of patients able to be transferred to Repatriation General Hospital (RGH) towards the end of the week to facilitate timely weekend transfers when RGH beds are available.
- A clear and transparent ‘up transfer protocol’ between Noarlunga and FMC ED Consultants based on acuity.
- More proactive management of inpatient beds to enable the transfer of known discharges to Post Anaesthesia Care Unit (PACU) or an authorised treatment room to support timely admissions into inpatient bays overnight.
- The continued review by SALHN Executive of Elective Surgical Lists until stabilisation of activity.
- The introduction of an additional Medical Consultant shift in the late afternoon/evening to support demand.

“The outcomes are a credit to the united effort of ANMF (SA Branch) members and officers taking a stand on the frontline,” Ms Dabars says.

While, at the time of writing, the measures are helping to improve patient flow in and out of the ED, ANMF (SA Branch) will continue to support members and advocate for processes that ensure FMC is able to manage demand in the southern regional catchment as part of the Transforming Health agenda.
ANMF (SA Branch) members have been instrumental in the introduction of a new service to improve patient flow across Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN).

The Patient Transport Team service was introduced by SALHN last month after a few ANMF (SA Branch) members identified the initiative as a means of improving patient flow between Emergency Departments and wards.

The Patient Transport Team includes a Nurse and Patient Services Assistant who work closely with Bed Managers and clinical areas to transfer admitted patients. The team’s responsibilities include patient handover, as well as provisions for preparing patients for transfer by packing up their belongings, patient transport and bed cleaning.

Initially introduced on weekdays from 8.00am until 8.30pm, the service has been so successful it’s now been extended to weekends.

Although still in its relative infancy, members at the Flinders Medical Centre are heralding the Patient Transport Team service as a tremendous step forward in combating Emergency Department overcrowding. Members have reported to the ANMF (SA Branch) that the initiative:

…“has significantly enhanced patient movement from the Emergency Department to the inpatient ward”.

…“means that as nurses we do not need to leave the Emergency Department and therefore can commence treatment on the next patient”.

…“has provided additional resources to assist in the movement of patients within the Emergency Department”.

We will continue to update you on the effectiveness of the Patient Transport Team service and encourage you to share any improvement ideas you may have with ANMF (SA Branch). You never know where they might lead.
WSR Training Dates for 2017

Below is the table of 2017 worksite rep training days which will all be held at our Ridleyton Office.

Apply Now to secure your place

Obtain authority to attend from your Manager using trade union training leave. (depending on provisions in members’ relevant Enterprise Agreement).

Enrol in training by contacting Sophie at the ANMF (SA Branch) on either 8334 1934 or Sophie.Nikolopoulos@anmfsa.org.au

Become a WSR and represent your work mates

Reps will learn about the ANMF (SA Branch), how to solve problems and support members, the industrial relations system, legal issues and professional matters.

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2. Journey accident cover*
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10. Opportunities to influence law and policy
11. Representation at Coronial inquests and NMBA investigations
12. Bargaining for better working conditions
13. Expert advice and assistance with WH&S & Workers’ Compensation
14. Expert professional and industrial advice helpline
15. Email advisory service on professional and industrial issues
16. Member discounts on ANMF (SA Branch) holiday homes
17. Discounted childcare, health insurance, banking and energy products
18. Legal Services by Union Legal SA on a range of matters including discounts on wills, traffic/criminal offences and conveyancing services
19. Member savings in 2,000 locations
20. Monthly journals and e-Bulletins

* Details, including exclusions and limitations are available on the ANMF (SA Branch) website.
LOBBYING FOR SOUND HEALTH POLICY... FROM 2018 AND BEYOND

More than 1.1 million voters are expected at the polls on 17 March next year to determine the political party empowered to decide—for the ensuing four years at least—on policies that will affect your work, our health system and the wellbeing of all South Australians.

No matter the party claiming victory on State election night, ANMF (SA Branch) is developing its health policy position statement to influence the policy responses of all political parties on issues relevant to nursing and midwifery and public health.

The soon-to-be-released ANMF (SA Branch) Position Statement sets out issues identified as priorities for health service provision beyond the 2018 State election and requests the major Parties to respond.

Conveniently, responses from four key Parties are likely to form the basis of presentations at the political debate on day two of this year’s Annual Professional Conference.

Labor MP Premier Jay Weatherill, Liberal Shadow Minister for Health and Wellbeing MLC Stephen Wade, Greens MLC Tammy Franks and a Nick Xenophon Team candidate (yet to be advised) will join us ‘on the couch’ at the conference to outline their policy commitments—and debate those of others—in relation to health.

Indeed, the ‘Politicians on the Couch - 2018 State Election Platform’ at this year’s conference is a debate not to be missed. Register to attend here ANMF (SA Branch) CEO/Secretary Adj Assoc Prof Elizabeth Dabars AM says the major parties’ responses to the issues and the ideas advanced for policy in the ANMF (SA Branch) position statement will be provided to members ahead of the State election.

“The debate about hospital and health reform tends to diminish if not dominate the need to address the wider social determinants of health,” Ms Dabars says.

“The focus needs to be shifted wider—onto the causes, not just the consequences, of health issues facing our communities.”

Broadening the scope would bring a greater focus on primary healthcare and preventative measures to reduce hospital admissions, along with creating and funding additional advanced practice and nurse practitioner roles.

Due for release later this month, the position statement promotes the ANMF (SA Branch) policy position on broad health-related issues such as climate change and power generation, as well as on issues more directly impacting the nursing and midwifery workforce. These range from public hospital clinical and governance issues to emergency, day and sub-acute care services; workforce and professional practice considerations to industrial relations, outsourcing and public infrastructure issues.
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An estimated 325 million people worldwide are living with chronic Hepatitis B virus (HBV) or Hepatitis C (HCV) infection according to new data released by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The WHO Global Hepatitis Report 2017 has revealed the majority of these people are at risk of chronic liver disease, cancer and death, due to life-saving testing and treatment not being accessed.

Viral hepatitis is recognised as a major public health challenge and World Hepatitis Day on 28 July aims to drive action to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030.

This comes on the back of WHO’s Global Strategy on viral hepatitis to eliminate Hepatitis B and C in the next 13 years and the launch of the global movement NOhep.

During 2016 in South Australia, there were 306 newly reported cases of Hepatitis B and 521 cases of Hepatitis C.

Jeffrey Stewart is a Clinical Practice Consultant in Viral Hepatitis for the Central Area Local Health Network (CALHN), who is passionate about reducing the stigma attached to infectious diseases.

“I have always had a strong interest in caring for people with blood borne viruses and infectious diseases. The best part of my job is telling people they have been cured of their Hepatitis C infection,” he says.

“World Hepatitis Day is a great annual event to highlight the main misconceptions of hepatitis.

“Many people still believe you can only be a carrier of Hepatitis B, when in fact the infection actually moves through different phases and should always be monitored. This assists to identify when treatment is required and ensures any complications are avoided.”

In recent years, treatment options for people diagnosed with Hepatitis C have improved greatly.

“Many patients are shocked to find out Hepatitis C can be easily treated and cured. In most cases, GPs are able to prescribe treatment for the infection,” Jeffrey says.

There are approximately 230,500 Australians living with chronic Hepatitis C who have had the infection for longer than six months. New breakthrough medicines now available offer a cure for between 90-95% of people living with Hepatitis C.

Nearly half of the 225,000 people in Australia living with chronic Hepatitis B are undiagnosed. Cirrhosis (scarring of the liver), liver cancer and liver failure can occur if people with chronic Hepatitis B are not properly diagnosed and treated.

World Hepatitis Day 2017 on 28 July is bringing the Eliminate Hepatitis theme to life through the #ShowYourFace campaign – share a photo of yourself accompanied by your own ‘I AM’ message to put a human face to the elimination of viral hepatitis. Visit website.
STATE BUDGET 2017-18
WHAT WILL IT DELIVER IN TERMS OF HEALTH FUNDING?

It’s that time of year, where it’s not only the peak flu season putting our health system under increasing pressure but we await the release of the state’s financial blueprint.

The State Budget will be handed down on Thursday 22 June ending much anticipation around the new Royal Adelaide Hospital (nRAH) costs, as part of the SA Health budget.

ANMF (SA Branch) officers will be in attendance at the budget lock-up to hear directly from the Treasurer the State Government’s plans for health funding in 2017-18. This is a critical budget for the State Government as its final budget ahead of the March 2018 State election.

In light of increasing pressures on health budgets, more efficient care is a necessity if the health system is to have the capacity needed to provide care to patients. Greater use of day surgery, improved patient pathways and more effective use of nurse- or criteria-based discharge will assist in this aim. ANMF (SA Branch) has been calling for evidence-based decision making in health care for more than decade.

As highlighted in this month’s editorial, there is compelling research available to support the position that safe staffing and skills mix leads to better patient outcomes.

“Our concern is that for far too long, debate around the sustainability of health care services has focussed on cuts to health care,” says ANMF (SA Branch) CEO/Secretary Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars AM.

“We support increased efficiency and effectiveness to minimise the cost of health care, we are opposed to simplistic cuts. Cuts only serve to reduce access to services that are essential to the health and wellbeing of our community.”

ANMF (SA Branch) will continue to press, at state and federal levels, Governments to commit to longer-term arrangements that will adequately fund health services into the future and contribute to research to ensure health services are provided as effectively and efficiently as possible.

We need a budget that correctly balances the importance of new infrastructure, addressing issues with service delivery—particularly in aged care—and providing exceptional patient care.

We need a budget that recognises the health dollar can’t be stretched any further.

And most of all, we need a budget focused on driving operational efficiencies; not financial ones.
ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE 2017

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SHAPING THE FUTURE

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Authorised By Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars AM CEO/Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (SA Branch)