

11 October 2016

Australian College of Nursing Launches Nurses are Essential in Health and Aged Care Reform White Paper

Today the Australian College of Nursing (ACN) launches its **Nurses are Essential in Health and Aged Care Reform** White Paper at a Parliamentary Breakfast in the Mural Hall, Parliament House, in front of a host of dignitaries.

The event will be attended by key nursing leaders, industry CEO's and academics from the health profession. ACN is honoured that Adjunct Professor Debra Thoms FACN DLF, Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer will be attending today.

The **Nurses are Essential in Health and Aged Care Reform** White Paper focuses on the following key points:

- With a workforce of 360,000, the nursing profession is ideally placed to drive health reform in Australia.
- Ensuring the nursing voice is heard in strategic policy debates and reform developments.
- The pursuit of improved access, quality and sustainable health and aged care will only be possible if nurses are supported to allow them to work to their full scope, and expanded scope where necessary.
- Investing in nursing leadership to support systems of mentoring, professional development, resilience and capacity building.

Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward FACN, CEO of the Australian College of Nursing said, "Today's launch will highlight that the voice of the nursing profession cannot be ignored in the health and aged care reform agenda. ACN is ready and willing to work with the Australian Government and health care partners work towards positive health and aged care reform."

ACN's Nurses are Essential in Health and Aged Care Reform White Paper will be available on the ACN website (www.acn.edu.au) later this morning.

Ends _____

For interviews, or for more information, please contact Wendy Hooke on 0297457541 or 0448 004 039 or email wendy.hooke@acn.edu.au



Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward, CEO of ACN.



Australian
College of
Nursing

Advancing nurse leadership

Notes to the Editors:

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is the national professional organisation for all nurse leaders and its aim is to ensure that the Australian community receives quality nursing care now and in the future. ACN is a membership organisation with members in all states and territories, health care settings and nursing specialties. ACN is also the Australian member of the International Council of Nurses headquartered in Geneva.

ACN, an organisation not afraid to intelligently challenge industry issues affecting the nursing profession or Australia's health care, is a well-connected and educated national body that drives change with people of influence to enhance the delivery of health services to the Australian community. ACN advances the skills and expertise of nurses to provide leadership in their contribution to the policy, practice and delivery of health care.

A membership organisation with members in all states and territories, health care settings and nursing specialities, ACN's membership includes many nurses in roles of influence, including senior nurses, organisational leaders, academics and researchers.

What is the role of ACN to media?

- ACN provides trusted, well supported information about Australia's health care system, the delivery of health care, nursing leadership and the nursing profession.
- ACN has a number of media-savvy spokespeople within the organisation who can comment on Australia's health care system, the delivery of health care, nursing leadership and the nursing profession.
- ACN offers media with an alternative voice to that of an industrial relations perspective.
- ACN is in-the-know and can comment on health care matters of interest.
- ACN can respond to media requests in a timely manner and with subject/clinical expert's available on-hand for further discussion.
- ACN regularly responds to government updates pertaining to Australia's health care system.

What role does ACN play?

ACN is here to act and deliver results as agents of change. They are working towards a brighter future through advancing nurse leadership to enhance the delivery of health care to all. The organisation provides nurse leaders with access to relevant information, support and education that will enhance Australia's reputation on the world stage.

Social media channels:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acnursing>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/acn_tweet

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-college-of-nursing>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/acn_nursing