



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 20th December 2016

Uniting team takes shape

A strong leadership team is building at Uniting in Victoria and Tasmania. Four general managers have recently been appointed from a very strong field to join Uniting in 2017, to form an executive team of eight.

Paul Linossier, inaugural CEO of Uniting in Victoria and Tasmania is excited by the leadership team taking shape. "We are bringing together an exceptional team to lead Uniting. It's a strong and diverse team providing both continuity and new perspectives."

Clare McGinness will join as General Manager, Program and Services. Clare is presently working with Housing Choices Australia to design their national operating model. With a background in nursing and experience in building organisational capability, Clare is focussed on understanding the customers' needs and aligning services to their needs. She will be instrumental in the design and integration of the service delivery model and structure for the organisation. Clare joins Uniting on the 23rd January 2017.

Quinn Pawson has been appointed as General Manager, Advocacy and Citizenship Engagement. As the current CEO at UnitingCare Prahran Mission, Quinn has a strong connection with the purpose and vision for Uniting backed by experience in policy, research and advocacy. Quinn will be engaging with a wide range of groups, including community partners, Church and clients, to build a solid research platform from which evidence-based policy, practice and citizen engagement can advance. His role will ensure that service quality, the customer experience and engagement with local communities is continually improving, establishing Uniting as a service provider of choice. Quinn will move into this new role 30th January 2017.

Jeffrey Pearse will join Uniting on the 30 January 2017 as the General Manager, People and Culture. Jeff is experienced in leading large-scale and complex organisational culture change and building high performance organisations. He will move to Uniting from his current people and culture role at Wesley Mission Victoria to drive all aspects of human resources, organisational development, training, workplace health and safety, and industrial relations to best serve the vision of Uniting and our people.

Deborah Sullivan has been appointed as General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services. Deborah possesses a breadth of financial management and operational experiences including most recently with Forensicare (Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health). In her role with Uniting, Deborah will be responsible for the effective management and leadership of corporate services to achieve the efficient and timely delivery of service to internal and external customers. Deborah will start with Uniting in March 2017.

This newly appointed group will join the growing executive team at Uniting, including:

Leanne McCormick, General Manager, Transformation. With her understanding of organisational dynamics and experience in whole-of-organisation change and capability build, Leanne has led the

transformation program since June 2017. After overseeing the successful transfer of governance to the Uniting Board in October, Leanne has been working on the design and implementation of a transition pathway and change management of 22 founding agencies into one organisation.

Rev John Clarke will be starting on 16 January 2016 as the Director of Mission. John has been Director of Mission with Uniting AgeWell for the past three years. His demonstrated church leadership and experience in project management, strategic thinking, practical theology and adult education will set great foundations for Uniting. In this inaugural role, John will look to deepen the ethos and spiritual heritage of the Uniting, as well as further develop links across the Church.

Caroline Healy, is Head of Brand Transition and the senior marketing communications professional in the team. Caroline started in November 2016 and is developing the strategy for engaging our people with our purpose, values and identity. A strong brand, marketing and communications strategist with 20 years' experience, Caroline will lead the transition of our 22 founding agencies to the Uniting identity.

"I am excited by the energy and expertise this team will bring to our emerging organisation," said Mr Linossier. "I look forward to working with them to shape Uniting and help us build on the strengths and heritage of our 22 founding agencies."

End

For further information contact:

Megan James
Change and Communications Lead
M: 0433 108 901

Editor's note

Uniting commenced on the 3 October 2016 as the new community services organisation of the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania. We are about working together to inspire people, enliven communities and confront injustice.

We are in the middle of changing from a network of 22 separate agencies into one organisation. Joining together will allow us to broaden our services across metropolitan, regional and remote parts of Victoria and Tasmania, and give us a stronger voice to advocate for improved services and social justice.

With a combined annual budget of about \$250 million, over 3,500 staff and 3,500 volunteers, the services of the new organisation will include emergency relief, financial counselling, housing and homelessness services, employment services, early childhood services, child, youth and family services, disability services, mental health services, non-residential aged care, alcohol and other drugs services and Lifeline.

The 22 agencies merging to form Uniting are:

Connections UnitingCare	UnitingCare Gippsland
Creative Ministries Network	UnitingCare Goulburn North East
John Macrae Centre	UnitingCare Harrison
Kildonan UnitingCare	UnitingCare lifeAssist
Lentara UnitingCare	UnitingCare ReGen
Prahran Mission UnitingCare	UnitingCare Tasmania
South Port UnitingCare	UnitingCare Werribee Support and Housing
UnitingCare Ballarat Parish Mission	UnitingCare Wodonga
UnitingCare Bendigo	Wesley Centre for Life Enrichment
UnitingCare East Burwood Centre	Wesley Mission Victoria
UnitingCare Geelong	Wimmera UnitingCare