**DISABILITY WORKING GROUP**

**Key Messages July 2024**

**Easy Read Format**

**Members:**

John Marrable, Kirsten Dixon, Paula Waby, Adam Hall, Jacqui Eggleton, Te Aroha Aratangi

**Standing members:**

Kathryn Harkin, Jack Devereux, Ruth Zeinert, Vanessa Taane

**Apologies:**

Jaime Randhawa, Heather Clay

**Guests:**

Sandy Suganth

The Disability Working Group members met on Friday 12 July 2024.

**Actions updates:**

* Four members appointed to WellSouth Disability Action Plan Steering Group.
* Next quarterly forum to be held on 2nd August
* Awareness month recently completed on the 4th floor, 90 staff have completed, mainly nurses but some healthcare assistants. Well received. Has also been done with Charge Nurse Managers in Southland.

**Sandy Suganth, Team Leader of Patient Enquiries Team.**

Attended meeting to seek acceptance of a proposal to have “PayWave”, at the front desk in Dunedin Hospital.

She outlined that for many years her team have seen consumers experience issues in paying as the desk is high and often people in a wheelchair cannot reach it.

She also said that many people struggle with the keys for their PIN number and on many times her team have done this for them.

Members said the importance of people having the independence to be able to make payments themselves as well.

The request was 100% approved by the group.

**Yellow Envelope**

The Yellow Envelope is an envelope with information that currently goes from Aged Care facilities to the hospitals in the Southern Region when a person is transferred from their care, and back again on discharge.

A plan is in the works to extend this to disabled residential care facilities.

It is known that the information required to be sent would not be the same and this will be considered. Members were supportive of this.

**Hidden Disabilities Sunflower**

Membership has been bought.

Awaiting delivery and considering how to advice this widely to the organisation.

An idea that there are lanyards for use in the hospital which are returned on departure.

There is a worry about infection so would need a cleaning process in place. To be considered further.

Also learned that this is now available on HealthLearn and available for all staff.

**Accessibility Audit updates**

John has provided information for

* the build of the Wanaka maternity unit.
* current maternity ward upgrades in Dunedin

**Round Table**:

* Concern that when seeing private practitioners that information is not then passed along to GP.

Not easy to have “holistic care” when not everyone has all the information.

* John to add