



Message from the CEO – Bernice Smith

Updated Wednesday 20th April 2022

Goldbridge Rehabilitation Services (Goldbridge) is based in Southport on the Gold Coast, Queensland. Goldbridge, along with other organisations, is facing a unique situation with delivering services during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. As per government public health announcements, Goldbridge has incorporated changes into all our programs to help slow the impact of this virus. Goldbridge will continue to adjust our program delivery as required. Please see update below:

- As people are aware, the number of cases per day in Queensland for COVID-19 are very high – between 5,000 and 10,000 per day. Therefore, it is inevitable that COVID will find it's way into the Goldbridge program areas at some point. All family members are to check with the centre before visiting to confirm process for visits. When COVID is in program areas the following will apply:
 - Family visits to be supported via zoom sessions with extra phone calls during the week.
 - Residents who test positive to isolate in one of our two Isolation units on-site for the required period.
 - Other residents to Quarantine at the facility for the required period.
 - Regular RAT testing to be undertaken.
 - Staff to be onsite and only access staff area.
 - Live-in Supervisors in separate Unit for resident support
 - Individual counselling sessions will be conducted by the Psychologist via zoom
 - Medical appointments undertaken via telehealth.
 - New admissions will reside in a transition Unit for a required period.
- On the 5th January 2022: The Gold Coast LGA was identified as high risk within health care settings, therefore Goldbridge is on high level restrictions for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This guideline has been enacted and is still in force, therefore masks/face shields are being worn by all staff, volunteers, visitors/contractors as per the Queensland Health directive.
- 17th December 2022: Goldbridge has implemented the Queensland Government policy that unvaccinated people will be unable to visit vulnerable settings as of 17th December 2021. This is still in force. The Goldbridge residential rehabilitation Therapeutic Community (TC) is a vulnerable setting. For further information, please see the link: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/healthalerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/queensland-restrictions-80-percent-vaccination>
- 15th December 2022: The Queensland Government announced that all authorised workers (in this instance workers in healthcare settings) must have the prescribed doses to be vaccinated against COVID-19 by 15 December 2021. For further information, please see the link of the QH Directive: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/workers-in-healthcare-setting> Therefore on the 15th November 2022, Goldbridge directed all Employees and Volunteers to have the prescribed doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 15 December 2021.
- Hand sanitiser and social distancing are to continue.
- Goldbridge will continue to provide services to clients attending the Therapeutic Community (TC) program. Staff continue to provide case management sessions which include individual goal setting and harm minimisation/recovery maintenance/ education sessions.
- Goldbridge will continue to provide services to clients in the Transition-to-Community program.
- Goldbridge will continue to provide services to clients in the Continuing Care program remotely as required.
- Goldbridge will continue to provide Psychologist counselling sessions remotely as required.
- The Day Program continues to operate three mornings per week.
- Telehealth appointments are being conducted by the Visiting Medical Officer (VMO) with support from the RN.

Our priority is to keep people safe through these unprecedented times. I have confidence that we can work together to continue to provide a flexible TC program. The Goldbridge Management Committee, staff team and volunteers are committed to upholding the Mission, Vision and Values of Goldbridge. If you or someone you know is interested in entering the program, please phone 5503 1255 or visit our website www.goldbridge.com.au