



## Message from the CEO – Bernice Smith

Updated Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Goldbridge Rehabilitation Services (Goldbridge) is based in Southport on the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. 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 different restrictions are announced by government on a regular basis. Please see update below:

- 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022: Due to the continuing rise of COVID-19 cases and number of people needing to isolate due to being a close contact, Goldbridge will be delivering a hybrid program. The hybrid program involves some staff working remotely and some sessions being delivered via zoom. Extra communication support will be provided by live-in Supervisors. Goldbridge will continue to accept new admissions during the hybrid program model.
- 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022: Due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases in the community, all family visits to be undertaken as 'Drive-In' visits until further notice. Goldbridge will organise for extra family phone calls and video conferencing sessions with family members as required.
- 5<sup>th</sup> 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; therefore masks/face shields are being worn by all staff, volunteers, visitors/contractors as per the Queensland Health directive.
- 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021: Goldbridge has implemented the Queensland Government policy that unvaccinated people will be unable to visit vulnerable settings as of 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021. 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>
- 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021: 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 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 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 Goldbridge Nurse.

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](http://www.goldbridge.com.au)