

Media Release

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Celebrating nurses, the ‘backbone’ of healthcare

Suyesha (Sue) Adhikari chose to be a nurse because she “wanted to make a difference in people’s lives”.

This Sunday 12 May is International Nurses Day (IND) – a time to acknowledge and celebrate the round-the-clock commitment nurses bring to those they care for. The theme for IND 2024 is ‘Our Nurses. Our Future. The economic power of care’, highlighting the huge economic value that nursing contributes to care.

For-purpose organisation VMCH is lucky to have hundreds of exceptional nurses like Sue working across its aged care, disability, educational and allied health services.

Sue is Unit Coordinator at VMCH’s St Bernadette’s aged care Specialised Dementia Care Unit. She coordinates the care of residents with severe behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia.

“I am very pleased to work in this special program and proud that I can advocate for my residents and their families.”

Sue admits while nursing can be a challenge, “the happiness and satisfaction nurses can have after helping their patients/ residents to meet desired outcome/healthy lives is indescribable.”

Daljit Nahar Singh is a Registered Nurse at VMCH’s St Catherine’s Aged Care Residence. It’s the human connection she loves most about her role.

“Every day as a nurse I have a tangible impact on the lives of residents, caring for their daily needs and providing compassion and care during their palliative days. Being a residential nurse, it gives me satisfaction to be there holding their hands when no family members are there for them.”

Administering medications, managing chronic health conditions and liaising with doctors are just some of Daljit’s daily tasks.

“It is often challenging but has provided me with many opportunities to learn every day. What I love best is the smile, happiness and satisfaction we see on residents’ faces when they are happy and the lasting and meaningful bonds we can forge with them.”

VMCH CEO Sonya Smart said it’s easy to see why nurses like Sue and Daljit are often described as the “backbone” of healthcare.

“Nurses play such a vital role in ensuring the health and wellbeing of so many vulnerable people in our community, particularly at VMCH. I’d like to acknowledge the incredible work of our nurses not just on International Nurses Day, but every day.”

Media enquiries

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About VMCH

Here at VMCH, our services are as diverse as the people we support.

Our values underpin the work we do. As a Catholic, for-purpose organisation, love, joy, hospitality and courage aren't just words to us, they guide us in everything we do.

While we've been around for over a century, we're always moving forward. Always staying true to who we are by supporting people and families to live their best lives; providing a place to call home and spaces to learn and grow.

Our professional and compassionate teams are with you on your life journey; helping you with a wide range of support from early learning and therapy, specialist education, disability services, affordable homes, residential aged care, retirement living and at-home aged care.

