

MEDIA RELEASE

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United Way Glenelg Kicks Off First Board Workshop Initiative At Seaview House

Following a recent United Way Glenelg Board workshop focused on identifying practical ways to strengthen community wellbeing across Glenelg Shire, the first initiative has already come to life.

Board member and Vice President, Peter Hayman identified a simple but meaningful opportunity to improve quality of life for residents at Seaview House by increasing access to football and entertainment through Foxtel.

After discussions with Seaview House staff, United Way Glenelg has committed to funding a 12-month Foxtel subscription for residents.

The package includes access to live AFL and sport, and movie channels, creating greater opportunities for connection, conversation and enjoyment within the home.

United Way Glenelg Executive Officer Nicole Carr said the initiative reflects the purpose of the recent Board workshop, which encouraged Board members to think beyond governance and focus on practical ideas that could make a real difference locally.

"Sometimes the most meaningful projects are the simple ones," Ms Carr said.

"For many residents, football has been part of their lives for decades. It creates connection, memories, conversation and routine. Peter recognised that something as simple as access to live football could have a really positive impact on wellbeing and social connection within the home."

Board member Peter Hayman said the workshop created a valuable opportunity for directors to share ideas based on what they see and hear within the community.

"The opportunity to put forward ideas and think differently was fantastic," Mr Hayman said.

"While our primary role as a Board is governance, living in a small community also makes you very aware of where people may need additional support or where simple ideas can make a difference.

"If we can advocate, help secure funding, connect people with the right support or simply share knowledge, then we should. Sometimes small initiatives can have a really positive impact on people's daily lives, and this was one of those opportunities."

The subscription will run for 12 months, after which United Way Glenelg and Seaview House will review how successful the service has been for residents and how it can be sustainable into the future.

Seaview House staff welcomed the support, acknowledging the positive impact it is expected to have for residents.

Lisa Hashfield, Manager from Seaview House said residents were already excited by the news.

“Our residents love their football and having access to live games, movies and entertainment will make such a difference, particularly for those who spend a lot of time indoors or are unable to attend community events.

“It creates something people can enjoy together, talk about and look forward to each week,” said Ms Hashfield.

United Way Glenelg said the project is expected to be the first of a number of community-focused ideas developed through the Board workshop that will begin rolling out across the next 12 months.

Photo: Frances Mizzi, a passionate Melbourne Football Club supporter, and George Randall, a loyal Geelong Football Club supporter, are excited to now be able to watch their teams play throughout the weekend thanks to the new Foxtel service at Seaview House.

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