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Barbara Anderson is A/Manager of the Aged Care Integration Unit in the Inter-Government & Funding Strategies Branch of the NSW Department of Health. Her professional background is in Health Information Management and she holds a Master of Arts Degree from the University of New South Wales. Barbara manages a small unit responsible for policy advice and development in relation to the care of older people within the NSW health care system and the provision of aged care services. The unit has specific responsibility for the Aged Care Assessment Program (ACAP), the Transitional Aged Care Program, the Aged Care Services Emergency Teams and more recently the Acute to Aged Related Care Services. The unit is involved with inter-government and inter-agency negotiations and currently is actively pursuing a range of projects associated with the Council of Australian Governments' health reform agenda, including ACAP COAG reform and the Long Stay Older People initiative.

### **Ross Bell**

Ross Bell is a Senior Social Work with the rehabilitation and Aged Care Service at Blacktown Mount Druitt Health Service, a part of Sydney West Area Health Service. Ross' clinical work is focussed on a service area of older patients, and the support and management of the 6 person social work team in the hospital who work in both the acute setting and in the Blacktown Aged Care Assessment team. Ross has post graduate qualifications in Education, Social Work and Bio Ethics. His research interests include issues of consent and competence and especially the area of nursing home placement of persons without their adult, full and informed consent. He is a current Doctor of Social Work Candidate with Charles Sturt University, where his focus of intergenerational family estrangement involving older parents and their adult children.

### **Stephen Chalcraft**

Dr Stephen Chalcraft is a geriatrician at Waitemata District Health Board in Auckland, NZ. His active interests are in quality, safety and risk as well evidence appraisal.

### **Colleen Langron**

Colleen Langron is a Physiotherapist who has worked in many different areas of Geriatrics in Sydney. She has been a Physiotherapist in Residential Aged Care and works with the Hornsby ACAT team treating older people living in the community. Colleen is currently part of the Physiotherapy OPERA team at Westmead Hospital assessing and treating acute, geriatric patients. She is interested in research and has participated in the Vision and Falls Study and is the Research Physiotherapist on the Frailty Intervention Trial being conducted by Professor Ian Cameron. Colleen will be commencing further studies this year investigating the causes and effects of dehydration in older people.

**Chris McMahon** is the general manager for Eden in Oz, which is an organisation that fosters the Eden Alternative philosophy believing that older people die from loneliness, helplessness and boredom and challenges the current culture in aged care to address these plagues with tools that bring about sustainable culture change. Her qualifications include Master degrees in Health Management and Counselling and Graduate Diplomas in Gerontology and Palliative Care. Chris' passionate belief is that "it can be different!".

### **Dave Matson**

Dave Matson is a Physiotherapist who graduated with a BSc(Hons) Physiotherapy from Glasgow Caledonian University in 1997. In that time he has worked in both the acute sector (rehabilitation, orthopaedics, intensive care and medical settings) and community rehabilitation sector in Queensland Health and the NHS (Belfast and the Wirral) in the UK. At present is working in the Transition Care Program within the Northside Health Service District in Brisbane.

### **Joan Hughes**

Joan Hughes was appointed CEO, Carers Australia in July 2006. She is an Honorary Associate in the Department of Nursing Research Centre, University of Sydney. Joan is a Churchill Fellow. The research about ageing parents of people with disabilities was carried out in Canada, USA and the UK. From 1993 until 2006, Joan was CEO Carers NSW, which has won many state and national awards including one of three International Caregiving Awards in Washington DC, USA. Carers NSW was funded as the first state peak organisation for carers in 2003. In 2008, she was selected to attend Australia's 2020 Summit. Joan serves on many Federal Government committees as well as International Carer Advisory committees.

#### Examples of committees

- o Federal ministerial/advisory committees on ageing, pensions and dementia 2008
- o Advisor to Carers NZ about their Carer Strategy and programs 2006-current
- o Executive member of the International Alliance of Carer Organization 2006-current
- o International advisor to the National Competence Carer Centre in Sweden 2007- current
- o Delivered the 2005 Clare Stevenson Memorial Lecture: Where's the Vision?
- o Chair of the National CEOs Forum of Carer Associations, 2005-current
- o Runner up of the National EQT CEO Awards, 2003
- o Finalist Telstra Business Woman of the Year Award, 2000
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### **Verica Maren**

Verica Maren is Clinical Nurse Specialist in Aged Care with background in working with the aged. Experience held in both the acute sector and the aged care sector of Residential, Community Aged Care and now Transitional Aged Care. Her interests include bushwalking and volleyball.

### **Gerard Stevens**

Gerard Stevens is a pharmacist. He is the Managing Director of Webstercare, a company that specialises in medication management systems and medication compliance. Gerard spends most of his time and energy on the design and development of innovations which complement the principle of the Quality Use of Medicine. Gerard was recently acknowledged with an Award for Excellence in Pharmacy Practice, by the University of Sydney.

### **Betty Tzouvelis**

Betty Tzouvelis is a Senior Project Officer with the Sub-acute Services unit at the Department of Human Services, Victoria. Betty has the lead on managing the Transition Care Program and other key initiatives, such as the TCP Plus and the VCAT – health service project. Previously, Betty had clinical and management responsibilities in the health service, residential and community aged care sector. Betty is currently completing a Master of Health Science – Aged Services with Victoria University.