

Spiritus Logan's Community Care brings both health and happiness

Spiritus Community Care Logan Manager Tracey Vidler is clear about why her staff are a happy bunch.

"Firstly, they are passionate about their caring and worthwhile roles and enjoy working with the diverse range of people in the Logan community. Secondly, they like the fact that working within Spiritus brings a lot of benefits such as permanent employment, good conditions and the ability to salary sacrifice which means their take home pay is significantly better. Given the uncertainty of everyday life currently, these extras can make a big difference to a person and we want to make sure we retain our staff – they are very valuable!"

Spiritus is an Anglican not-for-profit service which provides a variety of services including in-home nursing and personal care. In this rapidly growing area, Tracey is always on the lookout for nurses and caring staff with an interest in the people in their community and their needs.

In-home care for clients can range from nursing, personal hygiene, social outings, simple housework and washing. Carers also assist clients to pay bills, meet appointments and help with shopping. There's a wide diversity in roles amongst the staff.

"It's satisfying for nursing staff to see people responding to the kind of caring we provide through their individual care plans. This involves the whole team and includes careful planning from the resident physio and occupational therapists who work on appropriate exercises to improve mobility along with the variety aids for living at home more easily. They can help with hearing and visual aids, shower chairs and sometimes even a complete bathroom fit-out. It's a great reward when, as a result of some of these often small adjustments, people may go on living at home, safer and healthier!"

Tracey explains that there's never a dull moment in her workplace.

"We're always on the go. We run a Wound Clinic each week which helps clients with chronic leg ulcers and circulatory problems mostly. This wound management gives them freedom and means they can get on with their lives. They love coming here too and enjoy the social contact, having a good natter and tea and biccies with everyone else."

There's a lot more that goes on too. Clients' social outings mean that they travel in the Spiritus bus to such spots such as the picturesque Buddhist Temple, sports clubs for lunch, coastal venues and rainforest lookouts. A recent innovation means that clients are now able to visit and enjoy friendship, diversional therapy, music and even have a haircut!

Tracey says that they are a fun-loving and very interesting group.

"They often cook up a storm – we have two excellent curry makers on staff – and are full of life and ideas. They like the flexibility the job provides for family and other reasons, enjoy working in the area, appreciate the high standards we set and the experience they gain. They are a great team, a friendly close-knit bunch but above all they are devoted to making life better for our wonderful clients."

Interested people who would like to join the Spiritus staff should contact Tracey Vidler on 3340 9200. Further details about Spiritus and its activities and locations can be found on its website www.spiritus.org.au