

## Board update

February 2018

At its February 2018 meeting, the Board welcomed new member Dr Nina Sivertsen to her first meeting, after her election to the Board by members at the Annual General Meeting in November last year. Nina brings to the Board a wealth of experience, and a commitment to social justice and advocacy. More information on Nina is available on our website [here](#).

Members extended their congratulations to Mark Diamond, who has been appointed CEO of the National Rural Health Alliance.

The Board also farewelled Deputy Chair Jessie Byrne. Jessie was elected to the Board in 2013, first as a director and then as Deputy Chair. Jessie decided to resign before the end of her final term (November 2018) for personal reasons. The Board acknowledges the generous and ethical way in which Jessie has shared her skills and perspectives throughout her time on the Board. She has worked hard, with unfailing integrity and commitment and will be missed. We are sure our members join the directors in wishing her good health and happiness in her future endeavours.

The Board congratulated the staff on two new service contracts with Northern and Central Adelaide Local Health Networks, and reviewed the budget accordingly. Progress in recruitment of the new Chief Executive was discussed and due diligence checks confirmed. The Board approved and welcomed new members, noting that since 1 July 2017, organisational membership has increased by 120% and individual membership by 40%.

The [HCA 2018 Election Platform](#) was approved. This platform has been informed by HCA's advocacy work and engagement spanning 16 years, and a focussed consultation process late last year. HCA's members, partners and consumer advocates have identified priorities for action to ensure consumers are at the centre of health in South Australia. They want health policy based on evidence, research and consumer input at all stages to improve health outcomes and reduce costs. They also want a commitment to consumer-centred care, system change and health for those with the greatest need.

HCA is presenting its Election Platform to key political representatives in the lead-up to the state election and will continue our advocacy post-election. Further background information on the HCA 2018 Election Platform is available on our website [here](#).