

### Alzheimer's WA welcomes two new Board members

Chair of Alzheimer's WA, Craig Masarei is delighted to announce the appointment of two new Board directors, Ms Mellisa Teede and Ms Ella Dachs, at the Alzheimer's WA AGM on 20 November 2019.

Mr Masarei said "Both appointees have a wealth of experience that they bring to the Alzheimer's WA Board which will be critical to our organisation's growth to meet the increasing demand for our services."

"Ms Teede was recently appointed as CEO of the South West Development Commission and chaired and participated on several government and not-for-profit boards and committees. Ms Teede has significant high-level strategy and policy skills and experience in the education and training sector and in the regional economic and social development sector"

"Ms Dachs is the Principal of a strategic consulting firm and has over 20 years international experience specialising in strategic change, business transformation and branding/marketing across multiple industries. Ms Dachs brings a wealth of experience from the health sector and was one of the architects of the SHR Ministerial "Art of the Possible" industry engagement around digital health, research and innovation"

"Alzheimer's WA is committed to expanding its leadership and support role as WA's dementia experts." Mr Masarei said.

Mr Warren Harding, Chair of the Nominations Committee said "the addition to our skills- based Board of such accomplished and passionate Directors is welcome as we face the challenge of responding to the increasing number of people living with dementia across Western Australia. We will continue to seek new skills as part of our ongoing commitment to diversity and succession planning."

– Ends –

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#### Statistics

- There are currently 41,630 people living with dementia in Western Australia.
- This figure is predicted to increase dramatically to over 84,000 people in less than twenty years and almost 150,000 people by 2056<sup>1</sup>.
- Dementia is the leading cause of death of women in Australia, and the second leading cause of death of all Australians<sup>2</sup>. There is currently no cure.

#### Sources

<sup>1</sup> NATSEM calculations using Australian Bureau of Statistics population projections

<sup>2</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### **Notes to media:**

Stories in the media about dementia may prompt concerns or cause distress for audiences and readers. When writing or talking about dementia, please encourage your audience/readers to call our Customer Support line on 1300 66 77 88, a free call, telephone information and support service.

### **What is appropriate language for talking about dementia and why we need it?**

The words used to talk about dementia can have a significant impact on how people with dementia are viewed and treated in our community. In particular, please avoid the use of the word sufferer or suffering – the preferred language is a person/people living with dementia. Please read the [Dementia Language Guidelines](#) that have been developed by people living with dementia and carers.

### **About Alzheimer's WA**

As the dementia experts Alzheimer's WA works with those living with dementia and the organisations that care and support them, to have the greatest beneficial impact on their dementia journey.

Our client services, advocacy work, training and consultancy programs are based on a philosophy of understanding the lived experience of dementia. We are guided by people living with dementia and our approach views dementia as a holistic experience for the person rather than just a biological illness. Call our Customer Support line on 1300 66 77 88 or visit [www.alzheimerswa.org.au](http://www.alzheimerswa.org.au).