

Resolution

Statewide meeting of ANMF members in aged care – Tuesday 29 November 2016

This statewide meeting of ANMF members in private aged care:

1. Endorses the draft log of claims as circulated, with the proviso that:
 - (a) the two suggested amendments concerning definition of experience and annual progression for RNs/ENs be adopted; and
 - (b) the staffing section be fine tuned in order to incorporate the recommendations of the ANMF sponsored National Aged Care Staffing and Skills Mix Project Report 2016, which recommended that:
 - a staffing methodology be adopted for Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACFs)
 - a methodology for staffing RACFs needs to incorporate the time taken for both direct and indirect nursing, and personal care tasks and assessments of residents; it also needs to reflect the level of care required by residents
 - the average of 4 hours and 18 minutes of care per day, with a skill mix requirement of RN 30%, EN 20% and Personal care Worker 500% is the evidence based minimum care requirement and skill mix necessary to ensure safe residential and restorative care.
2. Calls on Branch Council to endorse the log of claims and to serve the log on all employers as soon as practicable.
3. Condemns the major budget cuts of almost \$2 billion that are being implemented by the Coalition Government from early 2017 which will further reduce both care hours and skill mix and threaten the quality of care for our fragile and vulnerable residents. Further, the cuts will make retention of existing EBA conditions more difficult and put downward pressure on future wage increases, making it harder to attract and retain staff in the aged care sector. We call on our employers to:
 - ensure that our anger over these cuts is conveyed to the Coalition Government and that employers campaign against them; and
 - ensure that aged care staff are informed about the cuts and that they are mobilised to contact their federal member of parliament.

Further, we call on the ANMF to commence and resource an appropriate national campaign that will inform and engage our aged care membership, as well as the wider ANMF membership, to oppose these cuts and advocate for significant real increases in aged care funding.