

A message from Victorian nurses and midwives

May 2024

Dear patient/client/resident/relative/friend

VICTORIAN NURSES AND MIDWIVES SAVE LIVES.

We are there when you are born, when you are having a baby, when you are sick, when you're in an accident and when you are dying.

We've been there for you always, mostly recently during the first five years of COVID and we're now under serious pressure due to workforce issues.

But it's not what you're thinking. Nurses and midwives have not 'left in droves'.

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia statistics show the number of Victorian nurses and midwives increased by about 16,000 net over the last five years.

What's happened is that our employers cannot fill all the shifts on the roster. Nurses and midwives are so exhausted and stressed by the constant overtime and requests on our days off to work extra shifts. We're moving from permanent to casual so we can control our shifts and our working lives.

We are seeking a fair pay rise that values our work and addresses gender equity, the cost of living, and interstate/territory competitiveness. We haven't specified a percentage increase because we're also seeking allowances that reward working additional permanent hours and unpopular shifts and penalise employers who rely on redeployment, excessive overtime and missed meal breaks to fill roster gaps.

We take protected industrial action as a last resort. Patient health, safety or welfare will not be at risk. There will be some inconvenience and for this we are sorry.

As a member of the Victorian community, please support us by calling on the Victorian Government to ensure we can retain, recruit and rebuild our wonderful nursing and midwifery workforce.

Thank you for your support, so we can continue to care for you.

Victorian public sector nurses and midwives

**PLEASE
TURN THE PAGE
FOR WAYS YOU CAN
SUPPORT NURSES
AND MIDWIVES SO
WE CAN CONTINUE
TO CARE FOR THE
COMMUNITY.**

Retain. Recruit. Rebuild.
our nursing and midwifery workforce

Authorised L. Fitzpatrick, Secretary, Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation, 535 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne Vic 3000

Speak out!

Please show your support for Victorian nurses and midwives by sharing ANMF's campaign posts on social media, calling talkback radio, writing letters to the newspapers and contacting politicians.

Talk about what the Victorian public health system means to you and your expectation that employers and the government must address the workforce issues with initiatives that will retain experienced and early career nurses and midwives, recruit additional nurses and midwives and rebuild a permanent workforce.

SUPPORT NURSES AND MIDWIVES ON SOCIAL MEDIA


- Share ANMF (Vic Branch) campaign posts
- Facebook, Instagram and X accounts via @anmfvic
- And tag Premier Jacinta Allan, Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas and Treasurer Tim Pallas


ANMF (VIC BRANCH) SOCIAL MEDIA

   @anmfvic

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT TAGS

 @JacintaAllanBendigoEast
@MaryAnneMacedon
@TimPallasMP

 @jacintaallanmp
@maryannethomasmp
@timpallasmp

 @JacintaAllanMP
@MaryAnneThomas
@timpallas

USE HASHTAGS

#retainrecruitrebuild #fairpay
#nurserecruitment #nurseretention
#midwiferecruitment #midwiferention
#proudtobeunion #inourebaera #nmeba2024

CONTACT THE MEDIA

CONTACT TALKBACK RADIO

ABC Melbourne talkback **1300 222 774**
or text **0437 774 774** (rates apply)

3AW talkback **133 693**

CALL REGIONAL TALKBACK RADIO

You may also have a local commercial radio station that takes talkback calls

ABC Ballarat call **1300 303 468**
ABC Central Victoria call **1300 813 911**
ABC Gippsland call **1300 295 222**
ABC Goulburn Murray **1300 147 222**
ABC Shepparton **1300 977 222**
ABC Mildura-Swan Hill call **1300 043 222**
ABC South West Victoria call **1300 001 602**
ABC Wimmera call **1300 594 222**

During talkback on regional ABC stations, you can also text (rates apply) on **0467 842 722**.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

You could also write to your local regional or suburban paper (if you're lucky enough to still have one).

The Age. Email letters@theage.com.au (letters should include your address, for verification, and name and be a maximum of 200 words. Find tips on writing a successful letter via theage.com.au/letters-tips).

The Herald Sun. Submit your letter online via heraldsun.com.au/news/opinion/letter-to-the-editor.

CONTACT THE PREMIER, THE HEALTH MINISTER AND THE TREASURER

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