

## **AGED CARE TASK FORCE ANNUAL REPORT 2003**

### **Members:**

Br Bill Beninati fms  
Sr Berenice Cornish rsj  
Sr Irene Crockett rsc  
Br John Gaven cm  
Sr Angela Grant rsj  
Ms Beverley Hackett  
Br Damian Keane oh  
Br Vincent Keating fsc  
Sr Noni Mitchell ibvm  
Mrs Joan Rafferty  
Sr Mary Treacy lcm  
Fr Hugh Walsh ofm  
Br Ray Mulvogue fms Emeritus Member  
Sr Sharon Price rsm Executive Director

### **MEMBERSHIP**

At the end of 2002 we bid farewell to Br Ray Mulvogue fms as he transferred to Queensland. Ray had been a much-valued member of the Aged Care Task Force over many years, bringing to the group a keen sense of fun along with his impressive credentials for aged care matters. In recognition of his contribution, emeritus membership was bestowed on Ray! Sr Anne O'Shaughnessy oln has also resigned from the Task Force during this year due to her building program commitments: we miss Anne greatly as her dedication to the group and her care for each of us will be hard to replace.

2003 brought us two new members: Br Bill Beninati fms, resident of Dalton Gardens and carer for some older congregational members and Ms Bev Hackett, Community Care Coordinator of the Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney employed by Mercy Family Centre. Bill has already contributed to the first seminar of 2003 by organising the reflection and Bev has enriched this year's seminar participants with her *showbags*: collections of material in take home form for easy reference.

We appreciate the commitment of long-standing members to the activities of the Task Force and we always have room for new members who bring a wealth of new ideas and different experiences to the group. If you have any suggestions for membership, please contact a member of the group.

### **MEETINGS**

The Task Force will have met on seven occasions in 2003: February 14, March 14, May 2, June 13, July 25, September 5 and the final meeting on 28 November will be an opportunity to review the year's work, plan for 2004 and enjoy dinner together. Five were regular meetings of the group and two were seminar planning meetings.

Our meetings cover a great deal of ground: we share information and ideas, we discuss topics of interest and concern to Task Force members, we address issues referred to us by leaders or the Executive Committee and we plan topics for our seminars. The seminar planning meetings actually get down to details about the organisation and operation of the seminars.

## **SEMINARS**

We have held two very successful seminars this year:

May 2:           *Sharing our Stories: facing the reality of on-going care of ageing religious*

October 17: *A Wellness Approach to Healthy Older Years*

and worked with the Executive Director to offer a workshop entitled *Conscious Living, Conscious Dying* for older religious. The two seminars covered a wealth of material of interest to those engaged in working with older religious and we are fortunate that our Task Force members are willing and able to take a role as presenters and panellists as well as facilitators for the seminars. The evaluation forms we collect after each seminar continue to provide us with ideas for future seminars.

The Task Force views itself as a support group for those working with older religious and is obviously well-appreciated with excellent attendance at our seminars. In 2004 the Task Force plans the usual two seminar days plus another *Conscious Living, Conscious Dying* workshop and a new initiative – a spirituality day for older religious.

## **PASTORAL CARE SUPPORT GROUP**

Br Patrick White cfc continues to facilitate meetings of this valuable group which gives personal support to the pastoral carers who attend. In 2004 Patrick will be leading a seminar day entitled *Self-Care: Key to Effective Ministry* encouraging carers to care firstly for themselves.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Task Force's work is made easier and much more efficient by the excellent, thorough and pro-active efforts of Sr Sharon Price rsm as Executive Director. We are fortunate to have her interest and her services in her role with CLRI(NSW).

**Sr Noni Mitchell ibvm  
for the Aged Care Task Force  
October 10, 2003**