



GORMAN HOUSE NEWSLETTER

The support of the Order of Malta NSW Branch has been vital to ensuring that St Vincent's Hospital Sydney has been able to operate the Gorman House service for seven days a week. The success of this essential service has been recognised by the Government, who have agreed to provide ongoing funding to St Vincent's to grow the service to become a seven day medical detoxification unit. This will better meet the complex health needs of our patients and improve our patient's experience, while becoming the centre of our efforts to bring the Gorman House's Care out further into the community.

For over thirty years this service has provided a safe, therapeutic and comfortable environment for patients to withdraw from mood-altering substances such as alcohol, ice, cocaine and heroin.

However as our population ages and has more complex health needs, we need to ensure we continue to provide the right level of care. That's why we are transitioning to this medical withdrawal program to ensure the severity of

withdrawal and medical complications are controlled. In this new service our doctors and nurses will assess, manage and monitor the withdrawal from their drug dependency.

Gorman House is now entering into a period of transition and refurbishment. Around the end of June we will close temporarily to fit out the unit with medical equipment. While changes and disruption to the service are expected, it will only be temporary to ensure the service can continue and perform even better than before! The role of the Order of Malta NSW Branch in supporting the new model of the service will continue to be very important into the future as we strive for the next frontier in outreach care.

This new inpatient service will be up and running by the end of the year. I thank the Order of Malta NSW Branch for their continued support during this exciting development.

Jenny O'Mahony
Manager, Inner City Health and
Emergency

YOUR SUPPORT

Thank you for donating to and volunteering at Gorman House. Though now, more than ever, we need your support.

The Order of Malta NSW Branch will be funding new aspects of the medical model of care at Gorman House, including increasing our support of "Gorman House Reaching Out" – a new outreach program to care for patients in the community and at St Vincent's.

The Order of Malta NSW Branch needs your help to raise \$150,000 a year for Gorman House and the new community outreach detoxification services. Your support will enable doctors and psychologists from St Vincent's Outreach Service to visit patients in the community who want to cease using drugs or alcohol but cannot, or do not, want to enter inpatient rehabilitation.

Your donation will make a huge difference to those in need, so please fill out the form on the back page to make a donation today.

**THE
FACTS**

1500

**DETOXIFICATION ADMISSIONS
TO GORMAN HOUSE ANNUALLY**

90%

**PATIENTS AT GORMAN
HOUSE HAVE MULTIPLE
MENTAL HEALTH AND/OR
PHYSICAL HEALTH ISSUES**

4

**MONTH
CONSTRUCTION
TIME FOR
REFURBISHED
GORMAN HOUSE**

\$150,000

**PER YEAR NEEDED FOR THE NEW
GORMAN HOUSE REACHING OUT SERVICE**

MORE INFORMATION

Please contact the Order of Malta Communications Office for more information about donating or volunteering to the Gorman House service.

02 9331 8477 | www.orderofmalta.org.au | 33-37 West Street, Darlinghurst NSW 2010

COMPASSIONATE CARE

A former patient at Gorman House shares his story.

“I was sober for 18 months before relapsing. I came back to Gorman House where I knew the staff would treat me with dignity, tolerance and respect. They don't treat people differently if you're having problems coming off alcohol or drugs. They also help you with medical and dental appointments. My teeth were shocking and all that has now been fixed – I can now smile again, thanks to the wonderful staff at Gorman House.”

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VOLUNTEERING AT GORMAN HOUSE

Heating up the barbie and frying up some snags with your friends sounds like a great way to spend an afternoon! By doing this at Gorman House you are also helping our residents socialise without the use of drugs or alcohol, while developing their cooking skills.

Though there are changes at Gorman House, our barbeque service run by volunteers is still operating on Wednesday afternoons and will continue until construction commences. We will still need Order of Malta volunteer support and hope that you will consider helping at Tierney House during the short shut-down period at Gorman House.

Once the new look Gorman House is back and open, we will be offering barbeque services to our residents on the weekend as well as Wednesday nights.

Should you wish to volunteer and help residents at Gorman House, then please get in touch with the Order of Malta Communications Office on 02 9331 8477 or email info@smom.org.au.



I WISH TO HELP BY DONATING:

\$20,000 \$10,000 \$5,000 Other \$ _____

I WANT THIS GIFT TO BE A:

Monthly Donation Quarterly Donation Annual Donation Single Donation

MY DETAILS:

Title: _____ First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____ Email: _____

GIFT PAYMENT:

Cheque made payable to the Order of Malta OR VISA Master Card

Credit Card Number:

Cardholder's Name: _____ Expiry Date: _____ Signature: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO:

The Order of Malta
33-37 West Street
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

Every donation \$2 or more is tax-deductible – thank you for supporting Gorman House

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive any future communications from the Order of Malta NSW Branch for the purpose of fundraising