



25 August 2020

Dear Church Family,

Welcome to issue **#18** of the South Queensland Conference Corporate Crisis Management Team communication.

Church update

Last week the Queensland Government announced that a positive COVID-19 case had been detected at the Wacol Youth Detention Facility. Over the last week we have seen an increase of COVID-19 cases confirmed that are predominately linked to this facility. As a result of the recent outbreak, the government announced on the 22 August that the Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan City, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Lockyer Valley, Moreton Bay and Redlands area were now classified as 'restricted areas'.

The government also announced that effective as of 22 August there would be a range of measures put in place to manage the situation - [Measures](#)

- In these restricted areas there is now a limit in place of **only 10 people** permitted to gather in a person's home and outdoor areas such as parks;
- For areas not listed there is now a limit **of only 30 people** in these spaces;
- The **limits do not apply** to businesses operating under a **COVID Safe Plan**.

Our churches **have a COVID Safe Plan** and as such churches in the South Brisbane region have started reopening. Our churches and ministries in Queensland are urged to take COVID-19 management seriously while we are in the process of re-opening our premises and to be proactive in measures taken to prevent viral contamination and transfer.

Due to the uncertain times that we are managing in we ask that we all remain patient and understanding as the opening and closing of churches may fluctuate.

Church COVID-19 Policy and Risk Assessment:

- The Conference Compliance Department has developed a **COVID-19 Policy** for all Churches, Convention Centres, Bookstores and Administration and Resourcing Centre to follow. This will be available on the Safety Management System Website or contact the Compliance Department for a copy.
- **Church Low Risk or Common Activities Risk Register** is also available on the Safety Management System Website for a church risk assessment on COVID-19.

Private Home Gatherings:

- We ask that church members please comply with the government restrictions placed on numbers permitted to gather in their local area and also observe social distancing and hygiene guidelines.

Convention Centers / Camp sites

The centers are open for Family camping, Caravan and Accommodation options following State Government Guidelines.

Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited

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ABC Bookstores

ABC book centers are open. All customers are expected to sanitise their hands prior to entering the stores and follow 1.5m social distancing rules with limited number of customers permitted in store.

Coronavirus cases update

Today there has been zero new case recorded. Queensland's total confirmed cases of Coronavirus is 1106 and there are 18 active cases

Resource: <https://www.covidlive.com.au/state/qld>

Schools update

Schools are fully opened with all students back in their classrooms and measures in place. Seventh-day Adventist Schools continue to release statements to parents informing them of any updates and changes.

The restrictions as outlined by the Chief Health Officer on the 22 August around gatherings in private homes and public spaces **does not apply to schools as they are categorised as exempt under the relevant [Health Direction](#)**.

Aged Care update

Due to the developing situation at the Wacol Youth Detention Facility the Queensland Government has instructed all Aged Care facilities in restricted areas to close – [Restricted Areas](#)

We responded to the direction immediately and as such our **Victoria Point** facility is now locked down until we receive further information which will enable us to assess the potential risk of this latest COVID-19 outbreak.

Our Melody Park, Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village and Caloundra Adventist Retirement Village remain open to visitors on a booking basis and for those who can present with an up to date flu vaccination certificate. Church members may access regular updates and latest communication from Aged Care CEO, Eric Anderson via the following link: <https://www.arplus.org.au/news/>

Conclusion

We want to thank and affirm our Pastoral Team and their families for their ongoing work and support that they provide to church members and church ministry. We pray for God's peace and blessing upon you and all that you do during this challenging time.

Our staff remain committed to and work tirelessly in ensuring that our church members are connected, cared for and spiritually supported. We continue to play our parts in minimizing the risk of spreading COVID-19 and preventing a second wave from occurring. We keep our Nation and church community in daily prayer. Thank you for your co-operation, understanding, and for taking note of this update. We truly appreciate all that you do as we continue to work through this current situation.

Yours sincerely
SQC Crisis Management Team

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