

MEDIA RELEASE



04 January 2011

Residents' care is first priority as Warrawee Aged Care Services evacuates

As parts of Queensland are bracing for rising river levels, staff at Churches of Christ Care's Warrawee Aged Care Services are enacting their Emergency Response Plan as the flooding in St George continues.

Churches of Christ in Queensland Executive Director Dean Phelan said the service had been in contact with the SES and the St George hospital, and plans were progressing to evacuate residents.

"We are liaising with the SES and they are continuing to update us on the situation as time progresses," Mr Phelan said.

"Currently, five high care residents are at the St George hospital and will be evacuated by Mediflight.

"Nineteen other residents will be evacuated by air to Churches of Christ Care's Moonah Park Aged Care Services in Mitchelton in Brisbane, while another three have gone home to family.

"Our first priority is always our residents, and as an organisation, we have created a Crisis Management Team to support the service managers and staff in the affected services.

"Warrawee Aged Care Services, the Queensland Ambulance Service and Queensland Health are working in close partnership to provide care and support to the residents.

"All residents are in good spirits, and divisional teams are also working closely to ensure residents and clients are looked after and staff are supported during this time."

The river is expected to peak at 14 meters, 0.6 meters higher than the March 2010 flooding, which caused significant damage.

Warrawee Aged Care Services will be closed from Thursday, 6 January and staff have prepared the site as best as possible to manage the expected flood waters on the property.

ENDS

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About Churches of Christ Care

Churches of Christ Care is a division of Churches of Christ in Queensland—a group of churches that is part of the worldwide Christian church.

We strive to create an inclusive, caring, compassionate environment that meets its clients' needs without discrimination or prejudice. Everyone is welcome to call on our help regardless of their religious background.

Churches of Christ Care is one of Queensland's leading providers of early childhood, child protection, affordable housing, retirement living and aged care services. We are a not-for-profit organisation that supports more than 27,000 clients each year in urban, rural and remote areas.

We operate 137 services throughout Queensland with the support of more than 2,800 staff and over 700 volunteers.

Churches of Christ Care is built on a foundation of Christian values, commitment to quality care, and trust and respect for clients and the community.