

MEDIA RELEASE

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NOTE REPORT ESSENTIAL TO CATHOLIC HEALTH POLICY STRATEGY

Catholic Health Australia (CHA) Chief Executive Officer, Suzanne Greenwood, today welcomed the release of the Dropping off the Edge (NOTE) 2015 report and acknowledged the essential role the report plays in the shaping of Catholic health policy efforts for all Australians.

“The NOTE report provides organisations like Catholic Health Australia with essential data that is key to influencing educated, accurate and – by extension – truly meaningful change in the areas of Australian Catholic health care, aged care and social service,” Mrs Greenwood said today.

“In order to make meaningful change, an accurate understanding of social disadvantage, its indicators, determinants and its geography is key. The NOTE report helps form an understanding of this landscape,” she added.

The NOTE report has and does play an important role in informing CHA’s health and aged care advocacy strategies that, by their nature, must take into account the social determinants of health across many diverse communities, right across the nation.

The NOTE studies, facilitated by Catholic Social Services Australia and Jesuit Social Services, compliments Catholic Health Australia’s own work on social determinants of health, entitled *Exploring the Connections: Catholic Social Teaching & Social Determinants of Health*.

“I wish to congratulate Jesuit Social Services and Catholic Social Services Australia for their valuable contributions that in no short measure assist governments, communities and organisations like CHA to better meet the evolving needs of Australia’s most disadvantaged people,” Mrs Greenwood said.

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CHA represents the largest single grouping of non-government health, aged and community care services in Australia.