



MEDIA RELEASE

Pat Garcia announced as new CEO of Catholic Health Australia

Catholic Health Australia has announced the appointment of Pat Garcia as its new Chief Executive Officer.

CHA is Australia's largest non-government grouping of health, community, and aged care services. Its members account for approximately ten percent of hospital-based healthcare in Australia, approximately 25 percent of private hospital care, five percent of public hospital care, 12 percent of aged care facilities, and 20 percent of home care and support for the elderly.

Pat brings with him a wealth of experience in public policy development, public affairs, and the law. Pat has worked in the private sector as a financial analyst and corporate lawyer, in the public sector as a senior adviser in the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet and Captain in the Australian Army Legal Corps, and as a political strategist in the Labor Party and in the Office of the NSW Premier.

Pat is currently the acting General Secretary of the NSW Branch of the Australian Labor Party. He will commence his duties at CHA in late October.

Catholic Health Australia Chair, the Hon. John Watkins said Pat Garcia's blend of skills and experience was the right fit for the organisation.

"I am delighted to welcome Pat Garcia as the new CEO of Catholic Health Australia," Mr Watkins said.

"Pat is an outstanding advocate with significant public policy experience, including the development and application of complex government policies.

"He is well suited to the task of advocating on behalf of Catholic Health, Aged Care and Community Services.

"The board is pleased to welcome someone with a history of community service as its CEO. Pat has served as an elected local government councillor and recently completed his term as Vice President of the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council. He is currently the Deputy President of Surf Life Saving Sydney.

"Pat is a very able advocate and policy thinker. He comes to the position of CEO at a critical time for Catholic Health and aged care in Australia. The board is very confident that Pat's leadership of CHA will make a real difference to the people in need of good health and aged care across Australia."

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