Accreditation Decision

**Decision to re-accredit service following a site audit**

**Service and approved provider details**

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| --- | --- |
| **Name of service:** | Blue Care Emerald Avalon Aged Care Facility |
| **RACS ID:** | 5986 |
| **Name of approved provider:** | The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q.) |
| **Address details:** | 126 Borilla Street EMERALD QLD 4720 |
| **Date of site audit:** | 01 October 2019 to 03 October 2019 |

**Summary of decision**

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| **Decision made on:** | 24 October 2019 | |
| **Decision made by**: | Authorised delegate of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner (Commissioner) under section 76 of the *Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Act 2018* to decide under section 41 of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Rules 2018 (Rules) about the accreditation of a service. | |
| **Decision:** | To re-accredit the service under section 41 of the Rules. | |
| **Further period of accreditation:** | 29 November 2019 to 29 November 2020 | |
| **Assessment of performance with the Aged Care Quality Standards** | | |
| Standard 1 Consumer dignity and choice | | Met |
| Requirement 1(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 1(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 1(3)(c) | | Met |
| Requirement 1(3)(d) | | Met |
| Requirement 1(3)(e) | | Met |
| Requirement 1(3)(f) | | Met |
| Standard 2 Ongoing assessment and planning with consumers | | Met |
| Requirement 2(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 2(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 2(3)(c) | | Met |
| Requirement 2(3)(d) | | Met |
| Requirement 2(3)(e) | | Met |
| Standard 3 Personal care and clinical care | | Met |
| Requirement 3(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 3(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 3(3)(c) | | Met |
| Requirement 3(3)(d) | | Met |
| Requirement 3(3)(e) | | Met |
| Requirement 3(3)(f) | | Met |
| Requirement 3(3)(g) | | Met |
| Standard 4 Services and supports for daily living | | Met |
| Requirement 4(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 4(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 4(3)(c) | | Met |
| Requirement 4(3)(d) | | Met |
| Requirement 4(3)(e) | | Met |
| Requirement 4(3)(f) | | Met |
| Requirement 4(3)(g) | | Met |
| Standard 5 Organisation’s service environment | | Met |
| Requirement 5(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 5(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 5(3)(c) | | Met |
| Standard 6 Feedback and complaints | | Met |
| Requirement 6(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 6(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 6(3)(c) | | Met |
| Requirement 6(3)(d) | | Met |
| Standard 7 Human resources | | Met |
| Requirement 7(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 7(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 7(3)(c) | | Met |
| Requirement 7(3)(d) | | Met |
| Requirement 7(3)(e) | | Met |
| Standard 8 Organisational governance | | Met |
| Requirement 8(3)(a) | | Met |
| Requirement 8(3)(b) | | Met |
| Requirement 8(3)(c) | | Met |
| Requirement 8(3)(d) | | Met |
| Requirement 8(3)(e) | | Met |
| **Timetable for making improvements:** | N/A | |
| **Revised plan for continuous improvement due:** | N/A | |

**This decision is published on the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission’s (Commission) website under section 48 of the Rules.**

Site Audit Performance   
Assessment Report

The Commission makes the decision taking into account this site audit report, any response by the provider, and any other relevant information.

The met/not met recommendations made by the Assessment Team in this site audit report may differ from the findings in the decision.

## Introduction

**This is the report of an assessment of Blue Care Emerald Avalon Aged Care Facility (the Service) conducted from 1 October 2019 to 3 October 2019.**

**This assessment was conducted for the purposes of assessing the provider’s performance in relation to the Service against the Aged Care Quality Standards (the Quality Standards) in accordance with the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Rules 2018.**

This report contains detailed findings about the performance assessment of the Service against each Quality Standard and the requirements within each Quality Standard. The Quality Standard and assessed requirements are rated as either Met or Not Met.

A Met rating for the Quality Standard means that all requirements of that Quality Standard have been assessed and rated as Met.

A Not Met rating for the Quality Standard means that one or more requirements of that Quality Standard has been assessed and one or more of those requirements have been rated as Not Met.

There will be no rating of the Quality Standard if only some of the requirements have been assessed and those requirements have been rated as Met.

This Report is to be read in conjunction with the Quality Standards.

## Assessment Details

The assessment was informed by a site assessment, observations at the service, review of documents and interviews with staff, consumers/representatives and others.

The following interviews were undertaken:

| **Type** | **Number** |
| --- | --- |
| Consumers | 10 |
| Consumer representatives | 2 |
| Management | 1 |
| Clinical staff | 3 |
| Care staff | 5 |
| Hospitality and environmental services staff | 6 |
| Lifestyle staff | 1 |
| External contractors | 0 |
| Visiting service providers such as allied health professionals | 0 |
| Other | 1 |

## Detailed findings

This section covers information about the assessment of the provider’s performance, in relation to the service, against each of the requirements of the Quality Standards that were assessed.

### Standard 1: Consumer dignity and choice Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I am treated with dignity and respect, and can maintain my identity. I can make informed choices about my care and services, and live the life I choose.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation:
2. has a culture of inclusion and respect for consumers; and
3. supports consumers to exercise choice and independence; and
4. respects consumers’ privacy.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 1:

The Assessment Team found that the service has met all six requirements under Standard 1.

Consumer experience interviews show that the majority of consumers/representatives agreed that staff treat consumers with respect most of the time or always. The majority of consumers/representatives also said they are encouraged to do as much as possible for themselves most of the time or always, and staff explain things to them most of the time or always. The service uses regular consumer surveys and feedback and complaints mechanism to ensure the consumers are satisfied staff treat them with respect and support them to maintain their identity and live the life they choose.

The service demonstrated that consumers are treated with dignity and respect, and that the service actively promotes a culture of inclusion. Staff were observed to interact with consumers respectfully and could identify consumers’ individual preferences and interests. Consumers described the ways their social connections are supported both inside and outside the service.

Staff could provide meaningful examples of how they help consumers make choices, including by giving consumers accurate information and options to inform their choice. Consumers reported they feel heard by staff and that they are able to make decisions about their life, even when it involves an element of risk.

Consumers report that the service protects the privacy and confidentiality of their information, and that they are satisfied that care and services, including personal care, is undertaken in a way that respects their privacy. Staff gave examples of how they maintain the privacy of consumers while providing care. The service also demonstrated how electronic and paper documentation is protected to preserve confidentiality of consumer information, consistent with policies and procedures.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 1 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that each consumer is treated with dignity and respect, with their identity, culture and diversity valued.

##### **Standard 1 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that care and services are culturally safe.

##### **Standard 1 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that each consumer is supported to exercise choice and independence, including to:

1. make decisions about their own care and the way care and services are delivered; and
2. make decisions about when family, friends, carers or others should be involved in their care; and
3. communicate their decisions; and
4. make connections with others and maintain relationships of choice, including intimate relationships.

##### **Standard 1 Requirement 3(d) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that each consumer is supported to take risks to enable them to live the best life they can.

##### **Standard 1 Requirement 3(e) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that information provided to each consumer is current, accurate and timely, and communicated in a way that is clear, easy to understand and enables them to exercise choice.

##### **Standard 1 Requirement 3(f) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that each consumer’s privacy is respected and personal information is kept confidential.

### Standard 2: Ongoing assessment and planning with consumers Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I am a partner in ongoing assessment and planning that helps me get the care and services I need for my health and well-being.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation undertakes initial and ongoing assessment and planning for care and services in partnership with the consumer. Assessment and planning has a focus on optimising health and well-being in accordance with the consumer’s needs, goals and preferences.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 2:

The Assessment Team found that the service met all five requirements under Standard 2.

Consumer experience interviews show that a high proportion of consumers/representatives agreed consumers have a say in their daily activities most of the time or always. Consumers said their direct engagement in the initial and ongoing assessment and planning of their care helps them to get the care and services they need. Consumers reported feeling safe and confident that staff listen to their goals and preferences, and that the service seeks input from other professionals to ensure they get the right care and services to meet their needs.

Staff could describe how consumers and others who contribute to the consumer’s care (including medical practitioners, allied health professionals, and family) work together to deliver a tailored care and service plan and monitor and review the plan as needed.

Consumers reported that their care and services are regularly reviewed and that when something goes wrong, or their needs or preferences change, the service is quick to communicate with them and seek their input to update the care and services they are getting. Each of the care and service plans reviewed showed plans had been regularly reviewed (with changes made) and a date set for the next scheduled review of the care and services plan.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 2 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that assessment and planning, including consideration of risks to the consumer’s health and well-being, informs the delivery of safe and effective care and services.

##### **Standard 2 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that assessment and planning identifies and addresses the consumer’s current needs, goals and preferences, including advance care planning and end of life planning if the consumer wishes.

##### **Standard 2 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that assessment and planning:

1. is based on ongoing partnership with the consumer and others that the consumer wishes to involve in assessment, planning and review of the consumer’s care and services; and
2. includes other organisations, and individuals and providers of other care and services, that are involved in the care of the consumer.

##### **Standard 2 Requirement 3(d) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the outcomes of assessment and planning are effectively communicated to the consumer and documented in a care and services plan that is readily available to the consumer, and where care and services are provided.

##### **Standard 2 Requirement 3(e) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that care and services are reviewed regularly for effectiveness, and when circumstances change or when incidents impact on the needs, goals or preferences of the consumer.

### Standard 3: Personal care and clinical care Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I get personal care, clinical care, or both personal care and clinical care, that is safe and right for me.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation delivers safe and effective personal care, clinical care, or both personal care and clinical care, in accordance with the consumer’s needs, goals and preferences to optimise health and well-being.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 3:

The Assessment Team found that the service met all seven requirements under Standard 3.

Consumer experience interviews show that all consumers/representatives said the consumer gets the care they need most of the time or always. All consumers reported feeling safe at the service.

Staff could describe how they ensure care is best practice, their opportunities for continuing education and how they ensure that information is shared both within the service and with others outside the service. Care staff demonstrated an understanding of precautions to prevent and control infection and the steps they could take to minimise the need for antibiotics.

Consumers gave various examples of how staff ensured the care provided was right for them. This included regularly asking them about their care and the way it is delivered.

Each of the care and service plans reviewed identified the delivery of safe and effective care. The service demonstrated they have a suite of policies and procedures underpinning the delivery of care and how they review practice and policies to ensure they remain fit-for-purpose.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 3 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that each consumer gets safe and effective personal care, clinical care, or both personal care and clinical care, that:

1. is best practice; and
2. is tailored to their needs; and
3. optimises their health and well-being.

##### **Standard 3 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates effective management of high impact or high prevalence risks associated with the care of each consumer.

##### **Standard 3 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the needs, goals and preferences of consumers nearing the end of life are recognised and addressed, their comfort maximised and their dignity preserved.

##### **Standard 3 Requirement 3(d) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that deterioration or change of a consumer’s mental health, cognitive or physical function, capacity or condition is recognised and responded to in a timely manner.

##### **Standard 3 Requirement 3(e) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that information about the consumer’s condition, needs and preferences is documented and communicated within the organisation, and with others where responsibility for care is shared.

##### **Standard 3 Requirement 3(f) Met**

The organisation demonstrates timely and appropriate referrals to individuals, other organisations and providers of other care and services.

##### **Standard 3 Requirement 3(g) Met**

The organisation demonstrates minimisation of infection related risks through implementing:

1. standard and transmission based precautions to prevent and control infection; and
2. practices to promote appropriate antibiotic prescribing and use to support optimal care and reduce the risk of increasing resistance to antibiotics.

### Standard 4: Services and supports for daily living Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I get the services and supports for daily living that are important for my health and   
   well-being and that enable me to do the things I want to do.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation provides safe and effective services and supports for daily living that optimise the consumer’s independence, health, well-being and quality of life.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 4:

The Assessment Team found that the service met all seven requirements under Standard 4.

Consumer experience interviews show that the majority of consumers/representatives said consumers are encouraged to do as much as possible for themselves most of the time or always. Consumer experience interviews show that over half of consumers/representatives said consumers like the food most of the time or always, with some consumers advising they would like a greater choice of meals and a greater variety of food.

Consumers expressed satisfaction that they are supported and enabled to live their daily life as they choose including emotional and spiritual care, activities and access to community groups.

Consumers said their leisure interests, emotional and psychological needs are met, and staff could demonstrate ways this is done in a supportive manner. Staff demonstrated how consumers are supported to do things of interest to them including one to one and group activities, pastimes and outings to places of interest.

The service could demonstrate how information regarding consumers’ needs and preferences is communicated in a timely and appropriate way. Staff could give meaningful examples of how information about consumers is collected and shared and demonstrated their knowledge of consumers’ individual needs and preferences in relation to activities, pastimes and independence.

The service demonstrated how meals are provided to meet individual consumer’s needs and preferences, and to ensure suitable variety, quality and quantity are provided.

The service demonstrated consumers and staff are supported with equipment that is safe, suitable, clean and well maintained through staff at the service and external contractors.

Management could demonstrate the services and supports for daily living provided at the service are monitored and reviewed, and improvements are made where needed.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 4 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that each consumer gets safe and effective services and supports for daily living that meet the consumer’s needs, goals and preferences and optimise their independence, health, well-being and quality of life.

##### **Standard 4 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that services and supports for daily living promote each consumer’s emotional, spiritual and psychological well-being.

##### **Standard 4 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that services and supports for daily living assist each consumer to:

1. participate in their community within and outside the organisation’s service environment; and
2. have social and personal relationships; and
3. do the things of interest to them.

##### **Standard 4 Requirement 3(d) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that information about the consumer’s condition, needs and preferences is communicated within the organisation, and with others where responsibility for care is shared.

##### **Standard 4 Requirement 3(e) Met**

The organisation demonstrates timely and appropriate referrals to individuals, other organisations and providers of other care and services.

##### **Standard 4 Requirement 3(f) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that where meals are provided, they are varied and of suitable quality and quantity.

##### **Standard 4 Requirement 3(g) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that where equipment is provided, it is safe, suitable, clean and well maintained.

### Standard 5: Organisation’s service environment Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I feel I belong and I am safe and comfortable in the organisation’s service environment.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation provides a safe and comfortable service environment that promotes the consumer’s independence, function and enjoyment.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 5:

The Assessment Team found that the service met all three requirements under Standard 5.

All consumers/representatives interviewed advised consumers feel safe at the service most of the time or always. Consumer experience interviews show that a high proportion of consumers/representatives said the consumer feels at home at the service most of the time or always. Consumers/representatives expressed satisfaction that:

* The service was well maintained and kept at a comfortable temperature.
* They have access to a range of equipment and furnishings and felt safe using them.
* The service regularly sought their feedback about how the service environment could be improved.

The service was observed to be welcoming with individual rooms decorated with memorabilia, photographs and other personal items, and were clean and well maintained. The layout of the service enabled consumers to move around freely, with suitable furniture, fittings and signage to help consumers navigate the service. Consumers had access to tidy outdoor areas with walking paths and handrails that enabled free movement around the service.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 5 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the service environment is welcoming and easy to understand, and optimises each consumer’s sense of belonging, independence, interaction and function.

##### **Standard 5 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the service environment:

1. is safe, clean, well maintained and comfortable; and
2. enables consumers to move freely, both indoors and outdoors.

##### **Standard 5 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that furniture, fittings and equipment are safe, clean, well maintained and suitable for the consumer.

### Standard 6: Feedback and complaints Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I feel safe and am encouraged and supported to give feedback and make complaints. I am engaged in processes to address my feedback and complaints, and appropriate action is taken.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation regularly seeks input and feedback from consumers, carers, the workforce and others and uses the input and feedback to inform continuous improvements for individual consumers and the whole organisation.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 6:

Consumers experience interviews show more than half of consumers/representatives said that staff follow up on things most of the time or always; others said it depends on staff. Consumers and representatives report they are aware of complaints and feedback avenues available to them and they feel comfortable to access them if needed. Where feedback has been provided, consumers/representatives advised of satisfaction with the process of addressing their concern and with open disclosure.

Staff demonstrated knowledge of how to enable consumers and representatives to access feedback processes and advocacy services as needed. They also demonstrated how verbal feedback is communicated so that management can address it.

Management demonstrated all feedback received is responded to verbally or in writing. All feedback and complaints are maintained in an electronic information system, and complaints are discussed at meetings and can be escalated to the organisational level as required. Feedback and complaints are reviewed by management and used to inform continuous improvement activities.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 6 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that consumers, their family, friends, carers and others are encouraged and supported to provide feedback and make complaints.

##### **Standard 6 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that consumers are made aware of and have access to advocates, language services and other methods for raising and resolving complaints.

##### **Standard 6 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that appropriate action is taken in response to complaints and an open disclosure process is used when things go wrong.

##### **Standard 6 Requirement 3(d) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that feedback and complaints are reviewed and used to improve the quality of care and services.

### Standard 7: Human resources Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I get quality care and services when I need them from people who are knowledgeable, capable and caring.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation has a workforce that is sufficient, and is skilled and qualified, to provide safe, respectful and quality care and services.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 7:

The Assessment Team found that the service met all five requirements under Standard 7.

Consumers experience interviews show that consumers/representatives said staff are kind and caring. Consumer experience interviews show that all consumers/representatives said staff know what they are doing most of the time or always. Consumers experience interviews show that all consumers/representatives said the consumer gets the care they need most of the time or always.

The service demonstrated that processes ensure the workforce is planned to ensure appropriate numbers and skill mix of staff to ensure the delivery and management of safe and quality care and services. Police certificate and registration requirements are monitored and reviewed regularly. Education is provided to meet mandatory requirements as well as service needs. Consumers/representatives said there are sufficient staff to meet consumers’ needs and find them knowledgeable about consumer’s individual needs and preferences.

Staff demonstrated the skills and knowledge required of their roles. They were familiar with individual consumer’s needs, preferences and daily routines. Staff expressed satisfaction with the range of education opportunities at the service and with their access to support when required.

Recruitment and monitoring processes ensure staff competence is maintained and where non-performance is identified, management address it in a timely manner. Performance assessment and review processes have been established.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 7 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the workforce is planned to enable, and the number and mix of members of the workforce deployed enables, the delivery and management of safe and quality care and services.

##### **Standard 7 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that workforce interactions with consumers are kind, caring and respectful of each consumer’s identity, culture and diversity.

##### **Standard 7 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the workforce is competent and the members of the workforce have the qualifications and knowledge to effectively perform their roles.

##### **Standard 7 Requirement 3(d) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the workforce is recruited, trained, equipped and supported to deliver the outcomes required by these standards.

##### **Standard 7 Requirement 3(e) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that regular assessment, monitoring and review of the performance of each member of the workforce is undertaken.

### Standard 8: Organisational governance Met

#### Consumer outcome:

1. I am confident the organisation is well run. I can partner in improving the delivery of care and services.

#### Organisation statement:

1. The organisation’s governing body is accountable for the delivery of safe and quality care and services.

#### Summary of Assessment of Standard 8:

The Assessment Team found that the service met all five requirements under Standard 8.

Consumers experience interviews show that the majority of consumers/representatives said the service is well run most of the time or always.

The service demonstrated they involve consumers in the delivery and evaluation of care and services, providing examples of how consumers are supported on a day-to-day basis. Consumers/representatives said they are involved in care planning and delivery and provided various examples of how this occurs.

The governing body meets regularly, sets clear expectations for the organisation and regularly reviews risks from an organisational and consumer perspective. There are organisation wide governance systems to support effective information management, the workforce, compliance with regulations and clinical care. The clinical governance framework addresses anti-microbial stewardship, open disclosure and minimising the use of restraint. Staff interviewed understood these concepts and could explain how they were applied in practice.

#### Requirements:

##### **Standard 8 Requirement 3(a) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that consumers are engaged in the development, delivery and evaluation of care and services and are supported in that engagement.

##### **Standard 8 Requirement 3(b) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that the organisation’s governing body promotes a culture of safe, inclusive and quality care and services and is accountable for their delivery.

##### **Standard 8 Requirement 3(c) Met**

The organisation demonstrates effective organisation wide governance systems relating to the following:

1. information management;
2. continuous improvement;
3. financial governance;
4. workforce governance, including the assignment of clear responsibilities and accountabilities;
5. regulatory compliance;
6. feedback and complaints.

##### **Standard 8 Requirement 3(d) Met**

The organisation demonstrates effective risk management systems and practices, including but not limited to the following:

1. managing high impact or high prevalence risks associated with the care of consumers;
2. identifying and responding to abuse and neglect of consumers;
3. supporting consumers to live the best life they can.

##### **Standard 8 Requirement 3(e) Met**

The organisation demonstrates that where clinical care is provided—a clinical governance framework, including but not limited to the following:

1. antimicrobial stewardship;
2. minimising the use of restraint;
3. open disclosure.