

## **New Acting CEO to lead JewishCare**

### **Media Release**

After eight years in the job Claire Vernon CEO at JewishCare is taking a seven month sabbatical.

Claire has led JewishCare through significant reform and change and has ensured that it is highly regarded as the key provider of community services in the Jewish community and is the first point of contact by community members in need. During her time JewishCare has significantly increased services. This includes an annual budget of over \$11m, a significant increase in the number of calls to FirstCall and a greater range of support services for clients. The very successful Capital Appeal ensured the construction of the purpose built centre on Saber St.

The JewishCare President Allan Vidor and the other Directors have been very supportive of the break and are pleased to appoint Richard Spencer as acting CEO for this period. Richard has impressive experience working at the CEO level in the non-profit sector and other senior strategic roles. He was the CEO of The Benevolent Society from 2004 to 2011. Other roles have included CEO of Cerebral Palsy Alliance and President and CEO of AFS Intercultural Programs in New York. He also served as Executive Director for UNICEF Australia in the late 80s. Richard started in the corporate sector first as a corporate lawyer for Clayton Utz and later as a senior manager with Pioneer International and Rio Tinto.

Allan Vidor says “We are thrilled for Claire to take a break from the considerable responsibilities as CEO. Recruiting Richard to the role for seven months was a real coup as he is highly regarded in the not for profit sector and will bring a new perspective to the organisation”

6 Feb 2015