

Media release

12 March 2021



Staff shortage leaves NDIS service provider without resources to meet community demand

EMBARGOED UNTIL MIDDAY SATURDAY 13 MARCH 2021

Bethany Community Support today announced it will discontinue its disability therapy services in Victoria's Barwon and south-west regions.

Bethany Group CEO Grant Boyd said the decision to discontinue these services "wasn't made lightly", but maintaining quality service provision had become unsustainable without an adequate supply of skilled staff for the organisation's small disability therapy team.

"We've tried everything we can to recruit therapists to meet the ongoing high demand for therapy services through the National Disability Insurance Scheme," Mr Boyd said.

"But a high demand for therapists in Warrnambool and other parts of regional Victoria meant we've been unable to fill vacant roles. The workforce shortage is a sector-wide issue, particularly in regional areas."

Mr Boyd said Bethany Community Support is working with the NDIS and other agencies to support current participants with alternative arrangements.

"We're actively working with the NDIS and another service provider regarding options for the transition of therapy support."