

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

3 September 2020

## Cancellation of the 2020 Hartley Cycle Challenge due to COVID-19 Pandemic

After extensive discussions and consultation with both the ACT and NSW Governments in relation to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Hartley Lifecare Board has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Hartley Cycle Challenge.

This decision was based on Hartley's responsibility to safeguard our clients, staff, volunteers, and event participants from the risks associated with holding such an event during the current pandemic. The safety of the wider community was also at the forefront of the Board's decision-making process.

We understand that this may be disappointing for some - particularly given the success that we have achieved holding the event in each of the last 20 years - however we must put the safety of our clients, staff and volunteers first.

Hartley Lifecare would like to thank all our amazing participants, sponsors and support crew for their hard work and relentless effort so far. We enjoyed an excellent response from the Canberra Community and our team had been working hard to try make this year's Cycle Challenge a COVID-safe event, however the risks remained too high to go ahead.

At Hartley, our purpose is that our clients and their families have the opportunity to live their best life. Although this is a set-back for our organisation, we will continue to build on our strong foundations in order to move forward with strength and resilience.

Please continue to monitor your emails, social media and our website for updates regarding next year's Cycle Challenge. The potential dates for this event are the  $26^{th} - 28^{th}$  of November 2021.

To the Canberra and wider community, we say thank you for your ongoing support and encourage everyone to please continue to stay safe.

More information: NSW Health Website

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