

16 November 2018

Dear service partners, colleagues and collaborators

**RE: EARLY NOTICE OF SHINE SA CLINIC CLOSURES  
AT DAVOREN PARK AND NOARLUNGA**

It is with regret that I write to you to provide early warning of pending SHINE SA clinic closures at Davoren Park and Noarlunga. These closures are planned to occur in February 2019.

SHINE SA commenced in 1970 as the Family Planning Association of South Australia located on Phillips Street at Kensington providing sexual and reproductive health services primarily to women.

SHINE SA is now a key sexual and reproductive health agency, providing sexual health clinics, health promotion, education and workforce development. Our focus is on providing services to young people and other vulnerable populations at risk of unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmissible infections (including blood borne viruses).

In South Australia currently SHINE SA has clinics at:

- 64c Woodville Road, Woodville
- 57 Hyde Street, Adelaide
- 43 Peachey Road, Davoren Park
- 20 Alexander Kelly Drive, Noarlunga Centre (GP Plus Super Clinic).

SHINE SA also provides clinics at the Adelaide Remand Centre, Yatala Labor Prison and the Adelaide Women's Prison; and delivers the SAMESH program (a HIV health promotion program targeting people at risk of, and/or living with HIV) in partnership with Thorne Harbour Health (previously the Victorian AIDS Council).

The announcement of the State Budget on 4 September 2018 included an average reduction in government funding of 2% to non-government organisations in SA. Despite this average the sexual health sector has been one of the hardest impacted sectors with a range of 5% to 9.5% funding reduction applied, with one service, Cheltenham Place completely defunded.

SHINE SA was the hardest hit of all remaining services losing \$547,000 per year. In addition to this significant decrease in funding, SHINE SA is required by government to prioritise and expand our education and workforce development programs.

Like many other organisations in the health sector, we have faced consistent cuts since 2012 to the SA Health component of funding. This has come through loss of wages indexation and/or the requirement to make significant cost savings. At the request of SA Health, over this time, we have implemented and maximised Commonwealth Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) billing - an income model for general practices, when in fact we are a specialised sexual health service. This has been implemented in an attempt to keep all of our services running. However as expected, many of our most vulnerable and young clients do not fit the 'standard' appointment that would ensure full MBS cost recovery.

***While we have taken many weeks to give full consideration to our options, and taken advice from experts, peers and staff, as a direct result of the \$547,000 per year funding decrease, we now unfortunately find ourselves forced to close two SHINE SA clinics plus the HIV counselling service component of the SAMESH service.***

We regret to announce that in early 2019 (during February 2019) SHINE SA will be closing:

- SHINE SA Clinic, 43 Peachey Road, Davoren Park
- SHINE SA Clinic, 20 Alexander Kelly Drive, Noarlunga Centre (GP Plus Super Clinic); and
- HIV Counselling Service component of SAMESH, 57 Hyde Street, Adelaide.

Woodville and Hyde Street services will continue to offer free, bulk-billed sexual health checks for young people under 30 and other communities of interest as published on our website.

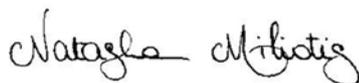
We fully appreciate that this significant loss of service will create difficulties for our partners, colleagues and collaborators who have been using, referring to, and/or working with us to deliver seamless services to people in the north and the south over many years.

In varied forms SHINE SA has provided services in the north and south since the mid-1970s. It is with sadness that we find ourselves in the situation of having to close these services and sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this causes you or your clients.

We will continue to communicate directly and through email, social media and media releases to reach all our affected partners and colleagues, as we work through the logistics of closure.

We thank you for your support over the years, and hope we can continue to work with you through our sexual health education and workforce development programs in the northern and southern metropolitan locations, and also should the opportunity arise to re-build SHINE SA clinical and counselling services in these locations. Please continue to refer clients to our Woodville and Hyde Street services.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natasha Miliotis".

Natasha Miliotis  
**Chief Executive Officer**