

November 2011

Dear Occupational Therapy Support Staff,

It is with great pleasure that OT AUSTRALIA WA is able to invite you to join our association as an Associate Member of OT AUSTRALIA WA.

WA is the first Occupational Therapy Association across Australia to offer **Associate Membership** for Occupational Therapy Support Staff and this is the culmination of several years planning and work to achieve this important milestone.

Occupational Therapists recognise the significant role that Occupational Therapy Support Staff play in the delivery of Occupational Therapy services, and now **OT AUSTRALIA WA** can offer support and encourage education, instruction and training for Occupational Therapy Support Staff. It also provides an opportunity to establish and maintain standards for Occupational Therapy Support Staff in Western Australia.

Listed Benefits of joining **OT AUSTRALIA WA** for OT Support Staff include:

- Free access to monthly OT AUSTRALIA WA newsletter- keep up to date with OT issues in WA and Nationally
- Discounted rates for WA OT Support Staff courses and seminars, OT Week events, State Conference OT Support Staff streams and specialised courses relevant to OT Support Staff
- Access to promotional resource material
- Advocacy and lobbying - including response to Government requests for input into policy, planning and legislation
- OT AUSTRALIA WA Website OT Support Staff online member only services and 'Job Advertisements' service
- Networking and marketing opportunities with OTs and others
- Office resources including meeting facilities and access to Association library facilities
- Access to OT Support Staff Special Interest Groups supporting clinical exposure, lobbying and networking under the guidance and direction of OT AUSTRALIA WA (to be established)
- Instalment plan for membership fees
- Opportunity to represent OT Support Staff on OT AUSTRALIA WA committees e.g. Continuing Education, Marketing
- Eligibility for OT Support Staff awards sponsored by OT AUSTRALIA WA

In addition to the listed benefits of joining **OT AUSTRALIA WA**, we are pleased to offer a direct debit agreement with HBF Corporate Health. The Corporate Health Plan has many benefits that will be available to **OT AUSTRALIA WA** members and includes both existing and new members of HBF. Choosing the Corporate Health Plan means that you may be entitled to a discount of up to 12% on Top Hospital and Essentials cover with HBF as well as receive

personalised member services and additional privileges and discounts. **Associate Members** of **OT AUSTRALIA WA** will also be entitled to receive these benefits.

We also have a formal working party committed to developing further member benefits for OT Support Staff. Throughout 2012, this working party will continue to gather further information from you and your colleagues about what you want from your association, and how best to meet the needs of our current and future OT Support Staff members.

For more information regarding **Associate Membership** of **OT AUSTRALIA WA** please contact the **OT AUSTRALIA WA** office on: **Ph- 9388 1490**.

We look forward to you taking up this opportunity to join our Association and coming on board with Occupational Therapists to improve standards and opportunities for Occupational Therapy in WA.

If you are interested in being more directly involved in **OT AUSTRALIA WA** through our committee work, please contact Sue or Stella in the office to register your interest. We are always in need of volunteer members to help establish and run OT Support Staff benefits and streams through the Association.



Kind regards
Rebecca Thompson
President

On behalf of the Committee of Management
OT AUSTRALIA WA