

# MEDIA RELEASE

## The Services Union Lodges FWA Dispute and Assists Workers Affected By The Closure of the RCAMB

4 APRIL 2013

The Services Union has lodged a dispute with Fair Work Australia (FWA) on behalf of members who were stood down by the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay (RCAMB), Board on Thursday, 28 March 2013 without pay.

The Modern Award, which these workers come under, clearly stipulates that the employer must consult with employees and their representatives any significant change within the workplace and the effects of this change, which the RCAMB Board in all respects has failed to do.

The Services Union has written to the RCAMB Board and has had no response.

The RCAMB workers deliver essential services to the most vulnerable people in the Moreton Bay community providing services to over 500 residents who are experiencing homelessness, domestic violence and mental health issues.

These workers are now without income and are owed around three weeks' wages.

Secretary of The Services Union Kath Nelson said these workers have also been locked out of their offices and unable to retrieve their personal belongings.

'In spite of all this, these workers are still working with their clients and are continuing to do everything in their personal power to ensure their clients do not end up in hospital or continue to be abused by their partners.'

"They deserve and want to be paid for the work they do!"

"We know workers at the RCAMB have been fighting to keep the organisation open for three years proving that these workers are totally committed to delivering these essential services to the local community," Ms Nelson said.

The Services Union is now offering assistance to their members at the RCAMB.

"We will also be investigating whether The Hope Fund, set up by Mr Clive Palmer can also be of assistance," Ms Nelson said.

"We urge the RCAMB Board to respond to our correspondence urgently," Ms Nelson said.

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