

TASMANIA'S HEALTH PLAN **ACTION**

Issue 10 January 2009

Workforce to have say, lead the way

Health minister Lara Giddings recently launched Tasmanian Health Professionals Leading the Way: Shaping Future Care, a Tasmania's Health Plan workforce sustainability discussion paper.

Tasmania's Health Plan identifies workforce sustainability as a key "enabler" of system reform. One initiative in this area is to further develop innovative models for the nursing and allied health workforce.

The new discussion paper outlines initiatives to tackle health system pressures.

The paper is an outcome of a study tour by the Leading the Way Taskforce, comprising 20 Tasmanian health professionals, to Britain and the United States in August and September last year.

Department of Health and Human Services chief nurse Fiona Stoker said the Taskforce included Tasmanian health professionals, union and regulatory representatives.

"The Taskforce saw some exciting developments in the delivery of healthcare, including initiatives that could transform patient care in Tasmania," Ms Stoker said.

"We want all healthcare professionals to consider the discussion paper and have their say in shaping the future of healthcare in Tasmania," she said.

A copy of the discussion paper can be found at:
<http://intra.dhhs.tas.gov.au/dhhs-online/page.php?id=26702>

Submissions close **5pm Friday February 27** and should be marked "Response to Tasmania's Health Professionals Leading the Way: Shaping Future Care" and sent to leadingtheway@dhhs.tas.gov.au or Chief Nurse, DHHS, GPO Box 125 Hobart TAS 7001.

March of THP community forums

The next round of community forums will take place around the state in mid March.

Biannual community forums are held in each region to showcase progress in implementing Tasmania's Health Plan and to hear feedback and advice. Participants include health providers, consumers and other key stakeholders such as local government representatives.

In 2009, forums will feature a short presentation from DHHS Secretary David Roberts and updates on integration of services through the area management structure.



LGH emergency medicine's makeover

A successful stakeholder workshop was held in December as part of the planning process for Launceston General Hospital's new emergency medicine department.

The project is in the design/planning phase with construction expected to start in July 2009.

Hospital and consumer representatives were asked to participate in the workshop that reviewed the design concept and how the new design would support future service delivery objectives.

Construction of LGH's new emergency medicine department should start in July 2009

Various patient scenarios were presented to the group and the patient flow was mapped within the context of the new design.

The outcome from the workshop activities will provide valuable information to the project team for further discussion and consideration and will assist the Department of Emergency Medicine in the development of the operational/work plan for the new department.

Tasmania's Health Plan

To find out more:

visit www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/thp
 email future.health@dhhs.tas.gov.au
 call 6233 3964

TASMANIA'S HEALTH PLAN

Leader of the palliative pack



Clinical networks are a major part of Tasmania's Health Plan and will facilitate greater clinician, consumer and other stakeholder involvement in planning, delivery and evaluation of health services.

Palliative care physician and new State Palliative Care Service clinical director Professor Michael Ashby has been appointed clinical leader of the Palliative Care Clinical Network.

The Palliative Care Clinical Network will work to ensure specialist palliative care, advice and support are available to all Tasmanians who need it.

The network will also help strengthen clinical standards.

Aged Care and Rehabilitation Clinical Network gets leaders

Southern Tasmanian geriatrician Dr David Dunbabin and LGH rehabilitation unit nurse manager Lee Wallace were recently appointed clinical leaders of the new Aged Care and Rehabilitation Clinical Network.

The network will improve communication and cooperation between people working in different regions of the state.

It will also build links in education, research, quality improvement and informal support between health professionals working in similar areas of healthcare.

Launceston Integrated Care Centre in experienced hands

Work on the Launceston Integrated Care Centre project proceeds with the appointment this month of Meredith Burn as project manager.

Previously Meredith worked on a number of projects for health service development in allied health, sub-acute services and workforce. She also established an integrated oral health service in Shepparton, Victoria.

Meredith is joined by project officer Jenny Gardam, previously with the Home and Community Care program as case manager for complex clients and liaison officer across the north and north-west.

In its early days, the ICC project is an exciting development under Tasmania's Health Plan for the northern region.

Communications workshop dates

DHHS will run helpful and practical communications workshops around the state in February to support Tasmania's Health Plan project staff and key stakeholders.

For more information contact Senior Communications Consultant Frank Noakes on 6233 3964 or frank.noakes@dhhs.tas.gov.au

Southern Communications Workshop

Tuesday 24 February 9.30am–12.30pm
SR2, 2nd floor Royal Hobart Hospital Education Centre, Hobart

North West Communications Workshop

Wednesday 25 February 9.30am–12.30pm
Burnie Community Health Centre 11 Jones St, Burnie

Northern Communications Workshop

Thursday 26 February 9.30am–12.30pm
Ravenswood Community Health Centre, 39-41 Lambert St, Ravenswood

Women's and Children's clinical network finds support

Women's and Children's Services stakeholders from around Tasmania have endorsed the development of a WACS clinical network at a well-attended forum in December.

This was further endorsed by the Tasmanian Clinical Advisory Council and DHHS Secretary David Roberts.

Clinical advisory coordinator Denise Walshe says the next steps are the appointment of the clinical leader and project and policy officer.

A well-attended diabetes forum in December decided further discussion was needed on the development of a clinical network for diabetes.

2009: the year of Tasmania's Health Plan implementation!

Many Tasmania's Health Plan projects will move towards completion in 2009, while others will start delivering real benefits for consumers right around Tasmania.



Partners in Health get online

Partners in Health, a strategic and operational partnership between DHHS and the UTAS health science faculty, has launched a new website to provide up-to-date information on its activities.

Visit the new website at www.partnersinhealth.utas.edu.au

