



TASMANIA'S HEALTH PLAN ACTION Issue 16 August 2009

Central Highlands Community Health Centre News

What do we do at the Health Centre? What's happening with the building?

To answer these questions (and more) the Centre is holding an open day for the local community on Tuesday 1 September.

They are inviting the community to come in anytime during the day, or during that week, and meet with the staff., view the plans for the proposed building works, and independent living units.

The Community Health Centre is the organising point for a wide range of activities around the region.

These include everything from the Bothwell Women's Pamper Day to blood pressure checks, Social Inclusion gatherings and the Ouse School Health Check Day.

The Community Health Centre Highlander Day Centre provides a range of activities and guest speakers and includes morning and afternoon tea and a cooked lunch. Transport within the municipality is provided on request.

The Centre also acts as the local organising point for Community Aged Care Packages and Extended Aged Care in the Home.

For information on activities at the Central Highlands Community Health Centre ring 6287 2001.[THP](#)

Health Promotion Priorities, Principles & Practice



The Working in Health Promoting Ways Framework identifies seven priority areas as having a key impact on the health of Tasmanians and eight principles for guiding effective practice.

The Framework comprises the diagram (above) and a background paper. To support the implementation the Framework a health promotion framework website is under development. Available on this website will be:

- An explanation of the Framework and how to put it into practice
- The Background Paper (to be finalised later this month) and
- Practical tools including action guides

Two developmental workshops for DHHS managers, program / project / service staff with the mandate and the capacity to influence the integration and implementation of health promotion within their services are planned.

The workshop on September 25 will focus on:

1. An overview of strategic directions and health promotion across the Agency
2. An overview of the proposed health promotion website.

Please contact Suzanne.Crowley@dhhs.tas.gov.au (or call 6222 7752) for further details.[THP](#)

TASMANIA'S HEALTH PLAN

Secretary's Update



Secretary David Roberts recently provided DHHS staff with an update on Agency finances and organisational changes. The following excerpts are reproduced for your information and interest:

The June 11 **State Budget** included a total of \$48.4 m in savings to be made by the Department of Health and Human Services in 2009-2010 – a result of the global financial crisis, which is expected to take \$1.5 billion from State Government income over the next four years.

Our biggest area of spending is the employment of people, therefore it is inevitable that we will have to reduce some staff numbers.

We will manage this through a range of voluntary measures, including redeployment, reduction in working hours, leave without pay, early retirement and some targeted voluntary redundancies.

Area Health Service chief executive officers and other operational unit managers are in the best position to decide what employment savings can be made in their areas, and are working through this process.

We are also looking at a range of other cost-saving measures this year. Wherever possible, we will make savings by working smarter

and more efficiently so that we're reducing the overall workload, in an attempt to free up positions. This is where new work practices, streamlined structures and better use of technology will come into play.

The ongoing implementation of Tasmania's Health Plan, our human services reforms and other Agency reforms will deliver more effective and efficient services and so contribute to our efficiency drive.

The **DHHS organisational chart** has also been updated in light of some recent changes to our structure. The link to the new organisational chart is:

http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/about_the_department/organisational_structure

The acute hospitals and primary health services no longer appear on our organisational chart – they have been replaced by the three **Area Health Services**. The North West Area Health Service, Northern Area Health Service and Southern Area Health Service are responsible for delivering acute and primary health services on a geographical area basis.

The Deputy Secretary Statewide System Development, Mary Bent, left the Agency on 30 June after almost 20 years of dedicated service. Many of you will know Mary Bent personally or through her outstanding work with DHHS over this period, most recently as Deputy Secretary, Statewide System Development (with oversight for implementation of **Tasmania's Health Plan**, as well as statewide and mental health services). There have been two major changes as a result of the reorganisation of the functions of the Statewide System Development Group.

The revised organisational structure gives **Statewide and Mental Health Services** CEO Dr John Crawshaw a direct reporting line and accountability to the Secretary.

The 'system development' functions of the Statewide System Development Group have been transferred to **Care Reform**. Deputy Secretary Alice Burchill will lead the DHHS's policy drive to further integrate care.

Care Reform also has policy oversight for statewide programs in the areas of chronic disease; strengthening primary health; and consumer and community engagement – including partnerships with organisations such as the Tasmanian Divisions of General Practice and the University of Tasmania.

Ambulance, medical retrieval and patient transport services have been integrated under the new **Tasmanian Ambulance and Health Transport Service**, under new CEO Dominic Morgan.

Integration of public emergency and non-emergency patient transport services flowed from reviews set in motion by Tasmania's Health Plan.^{THP}

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