



UPDATE

Oral Health Services

The hospital celebrated its first Harmony Day with a morning tea to acknowledge the cultural diversity of our staff. Roxanne Martinez Artuz, Archie Lubrin and Maria Rivera delighted staff with their traditional Philippine folk dance 'Cariñosa' and prizes were given to the winners of the world flag trivia competition.

The *Toothfairy* Newsletter will be reintroduced this April with Jolanta Wlodarczyk and Louise Pettit coordinating the publication. The issue will be a retrospective capturing past staff achievements and major events prior to 2014.

It is with mixed feelings that I announce the departure of two of our respected Executive staff members. Human Resource Manager John Kumanidis has accepted a 12 month secondment at Balmain Hospital, assisting in the establishment of their HR Department, while our A/Manager of Corporate Services, Michael Morris, has been successfully appointed as the Deputy Director, Corporate and Clinical Support Services at Concord Hospital. Both John and Michael will be deeply missed, and on behalf of all the staff we thank them for their commitment and dedication to their roles during their time with us.

Population Health

Spaces for Term 2 Go4Fun programs are still available. It's a fun and free program for kids aged 7-13 who are above a healthy weight. Parents can quickly check if their child is overweight online at www.go4fun.com.au

Go4Fun helps kids build self-esteem and confidence in a supportive environment, as well as helping to set in place long-term healthy habits for the whole family.

The program runs during term after school, and gives kids and their parents a positive chance to learn about health and nutrition as well as participating in fun games and activities.

It is held at a variety of locations across Sydney each term. All SLHD programs can be seen at www.slhd.nsw.gov.au/go4fun

In Term 2 Go4Fun will be held at: Belmore – Belmore PCYC; Canada Bay – Five Dock Leisure Centre and Marrickville – Marrickville PCYC.

The Go4Fun program meets all National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines for managing overweight and obesity in children.

Parents can register or seek more information at www.slhd.nsw.gov.au/go4fun or by calling 1800 780 900.

Celebrations of cultural diversity

The cultural diversity of Sydney Local Health District was highlighted recently with two events held in March – Close the Gap Day and Harmony Day.

The Close the Gap campaign aims to reduce the 10 to 17 year shortfall in life expectancy between the indigenous and general Australian population by 2030. The event, held at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, demonstrated the District's commitment to reducing health inequality. It was also an opportunity to celebrate achievements in local Aboriginal health initiatives.

The event included an official ceremony with special guest speakers, information stalls on health services, indigenous cultural performances and a barbecue lunch. Attendees were also encouraged to put their handprint on an interactive artwork to pledge their support for the Close the Gap campaign.

Concord Hospital celebrated Harmony Day with a range of activities as diverse as the cultures represented.



Making their mark... staff enjoy Close the Gap festivities.

Flags were displayed in the walkway and a photographic exhibition was held in the hospital foyer. Local school students took part in a parade of national costumes, dance and music performances were held and staff promoted multi-lingual health and medication resources.

A high point of the day was the multicultural cooking demonstrations and the variety of food stalls.

Reaching out

Sydney Local Health District has now officially launched its Hospital in the Home and Sydney District Nursing services with a ceremony overseen by the NSW Chief Nurse Susan Pierce.

Hospital in the Home, now based at four locations across the inner west, aims to help patients remain in their own home or work or school while recovering from illness, and is supported by global data which

indicates it is associated with increased patient and carer satisfaction and decreased mortality due to reduced falls and disorientation/delirium.

At the same launch, the District officially unveiled its re-branded Sydney District Nursing service, operating in the area since 1900.

For photos of the launch, see the [Media Centre](#)