

News from the Field

Volume 1, Issue 7

Fairfield Hospital



Message From The GM

I have now completed my first month as A/GM at Fairfield and am impressed with the care and commitment provided to patients by staff. Thank you all for your hard work during what would be described by many as a very challenging and busy winter.

I am pleased to announce that the Emergency Department has received two Computers On Wheels (affectionately known as COWS) this month. These portable work stations should result in improved efficiency of patient care. The COWS could be implemented throughout the hospital if the trial is successful and positive feedback is received from the Emergency Department NUM and Medical Director.

The installation of the new x-ray machine is back on track after some teething problems which

required a new part to be ordered from Germany. This machine is a real boost for the hospital.

I am also pleased to advise the confirmed commencement date for The fourth Medical Team is now 13 August 2012. This is a great stepping stone for the hospital fostering improved patient care.

A pedestrian crossing at the front of the hospital has been approved and work will commence in a few weeks. We are also in the process of repairing the car park boom gate—thank you all for your patience.

I am pleased to inform you that Fairfield Hospital has received accreditation until 2014 from the ACHS.

The Hospital's overall activity is up on last year with an increase in both presentations to our Emergency Department and admissions. The hospital is travelling above targets for all triage categories and has a zero-zero-zero waiting list for surgery.

Staff and management are working hard on the National Emergency Access Targets (NEAT) and the Activity Based Funding (ABF) projects. I will provide you with more details in next month's edition

However this month has been a sad one for our community network with the sudden passing of our representative Mr. Bill Little. Our hearts and thoughts go out to his family and friends. He will be sorely missed.

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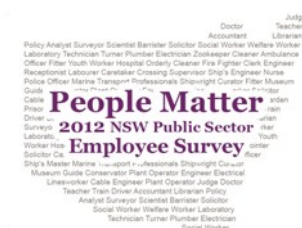
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People Matter – NSW Employee Survey

The Public Service Commission is conducting a 2012 NSW Employee Survey. This "People Matter 2012 NSW Employee Survey" is an opportunity for you to make your workplace and the wider NSW public sector a better place to work. This gives all employees an opportunity to provide feedback on your engagement with your workplace and the values that matter to you. This survey will be conducted by an independent research

company (Australian Survey Research) and there participation and responses will be treated with confidentiality. The survey will run between 16 July 2012 and 10 August 2012 and can be completed either online (i.e through people Matter link in the SWSLHD intranet or via hard copy survey questionnaire. Completed hard copy surveys can be sealed and dropped in the designated confidential box in the Human Resources Department. Employees

without access to computers will be able to use the workstations in the Library during its operating hours by presenting your Staff ID. Alternatively, employees may also use the workstations in the Computer Training Room on the 1st and 9th August @ 12pm.



HCF has a very inexpensive and very affordable Income Protection Cover called "Income Assist" - This will protect your most precious asset – your income each month! For more information call Belinda Hemingway on 0414 559 767

Community

A Special Dedication

It is with great sadness that we advise that Mr. Bill Little, the Deputy Chair of the Fairfield Network passed away on Monday 9 July 2012 at the age of 68. Bill was also the Chair of the Consumer Community Council and has made a tremendous contribution to better health care in South Western Sydney.



Prior to joining the network Bill worked for Arnotts Biscuits for 40 years but then joined the Consumer Community Council in 2005 and has held positions as Chair or Deputy Chair since joining the Council. Bill has sat on a number of committees across Fairfield Hospital, the District and State as a health consumer and community member, including Infection Control, Clinical and Quality Council, Strategic Planning and Complex Care and Cardiac Committees.

Bill was also involved in the Rotary for 25 years, holding positions such as District Governor and undertaking numerous overseas trips to assist Rotary international projects, particularly in underdeveloped countries such as the Philippines.

Bill will be very sorely missed across the District and the Community Participation Network. We thank him for his enormous contribution to our Hospital and community.

Consumer and Community Participation Framework

This month the Community and Participation manager gave a presentation about Hospital Services and the Community Participation Network to the Fairfield Migrant Interagency. The Presentation received positive feedback and opened numerous networking opportunities with other community organisations. The network also welcomed Mr. Gream as a new member this month.

Diabetes Awareness Week

Diabetes Awareness Week in Australia was held from 8-14 July 2012. To Mark this week, the Diabetes Educators set up an information stand in the hospital foyer to provide staff and general public with information on the prevention and management of diabetes.

Community awareness is essential as Diabetes is the fastest growing chronic disease in Australia with 275 people developing diabetes everyday. Further, the Fairfield Local Government Area has one of the fastest growing

rates of diabetes in Australia. The Australian Diabetes Council used Diabetes Awareness Week to focus on the elevated risk of Cardiovascular disease for people with diabetes and highlights the importance of healthy eating, exercise, stress and looking after overall health.

The Diabetes educators spent time answering questions raised by staff and the general public. A brochure is available outlining services and contact details of Fairfield Diabetes Clinic. They can be contacted on 9616 8510.

Social Media Policy

There is a growing trend for the use of social media and networking sites. As a result these guidelines have been published to provide advice to staff on how to harness the benefits of participating in social media platforms while minimising the potential risks. The guidelines cover both private and official use of social media.

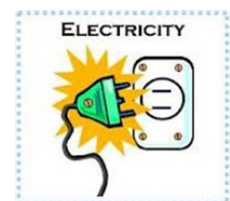
All staff are encouraged to read through the guidelines on the following link:

SWSLHD – use of social media guidelines
http://intranet.sswahs.nsw.gov.au/SSWPPolicies/pdf/SWSLHD/SWSLHD_GL2012.001.pdf

Salvation Army

At the Fairfield Interagency meeting, Edison Yongai from the Salvation Army spoke about the Home Energy Saver Scheme to assist low income families with electricity bills. As part of this scheme the Salvation Army is offering advice on budgeting and providing free home visits and community presentations.

For more information please call
1800 007 001



Hepatitis Awareness Week

Hepatitis Awareness Week was held from 23 – 29 July. Hepatitis is the most frequent indication of liver transplantation in Australia.

In Australia, approximately 165,000 people are living with chronic hepatitis B. Hep B as a virus is transmitted through blood, birthing or mother to child and sexual activity. Whilst there is no cure, a vaccine is available to help manage the virus.

Further, an estimated 212,000 have chronic or long-term hepatitis C and an estimated 10,000 new infections occur annually. Hep C is a virus transmitted through blood to blood contact only. There is no vaccine, but treatment can assist 50-85% of people.

In NSW 23 – 40% of people with chronic viral hepatitis reside in Sydney's inner and South-West Sydney.

Hep B and Hep C often have no symptoms but cause 80% of the world's liver cancer.

For more information, please go to:

www.hep.org.au

<http://loveyourliver.com.au>



Respecting the Difference e-learning course information

South Western Sydney Local Health District recently launched the "Respecting the Difference" e-learning training to develop greater understanding of Aboriginal Culture in our facilities and services.

Staff can access the course training through logging in on the Total LMS on the Centre for Education and Workforce Development (CEWD) site

using their eight digit employee number. Following successful log on, the course can be accessed by

Course code: COM915
Course Name: Respecting the Difference – An Aboriginal Cultural Training Framework

Staff are required to complete all components of the course that are listed on the left hand side of the

course.

Should you have any queries with regards to the online course, please contact CEWD on 9825 5920 or cewd@sswahs.nsw.gov.au

"Your support in undertaking this program is the first step in realising cultural change"

Education / Research

Grand Rounds

Grand Rounds on Wednesday 11 July 2012 was presented by Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology on the topic of "Leadership in Healthcare & Financial Responsibility" by Dr Charles McCusker.

Grand Rounds on Wednesday 25 July 2012 was presented by Aged Care & Rehabilitation on the topic of "From Hospital to Home" by Debbie Atherton, Service Manager Aged Care.

World Breast Feeding Week

Karitane is celebrating World Breastfeeding Week by hosting a Morning Tea on 7 August 2012 from 10.00 – 11.30 am at Karitane, Carramar 138-15 The Horsley Drive.

Guest Speaker will be Mrs Enid Ross .

There will be infant massage demonstrations and a toddler play area.

Public Interest Disclosure – Information Session.

In NSW, public interest disclosure (PID) legislation. Policies and procedures are intended to encourage and ease the pathway for public officials to report wrong doing.

The Work shop will be presented by the NSW Ombudsman's Public Interest Disclosure Unit on Tuesday 28 August 2012 @ 10am in the Whitlam Joint Replacement Centre. All staff and managers in Public Sector Organisations are encouraged to attend.

Patient Safety Champion

During the month of July, staff at Fairfield Hospital were encouraged to nominate staff with the aim of finding a "Patient Safety Champion" at Fairfield Hospital.

Completed **Patient Safety Champion Award Nomination Forms** were to be returned to Jeanette Dwyer - Patient Safety Manager, Fairfield Hospital by 3 August 2012.

The winning nominations will be announced at the SWSLHD **Patient safety Seminar** on August 30.

Applications will be judged against set criteria which demonstrate enhanced patient safety through innovation, teamwork, communication, learning and continuous improvement.



**2012 Patient Safety
Champion Award**

Fairfield Forum—Car Park

It has been brought to our attention by SWSLHD Corporate Services that staff are utilising Fleet vehicles and parking within the Fairfield Forum car park. All staff are to note that if they are to park there for longer than the allowed 3 hours, then a parking ticket needs to be displayed to avoid receiving a penalty notice from the Forum Owners.

Payment of penalty notices will be the responsibility of the driver of the vehicle so please take care.



Salary Increase for Staff

Following a recent decision by the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW, a 2.5 per cent salary increase has been granted to all employees covered by the Health Services Union (HSU) East Awards (excluding Operational Ambulance Officers and Managers) and Career Medical officers represented by ASMOF.

The increase took effect on 2 July 2012.

Any enquiries regarding this should be directed to the Payroll service desk on: **1300 428 283**

WH&S

Based on orientation training review, the updated online WHS training for all staff is now available on the CEWD LMS.

Logon to the CEWD and locate

Course Code: OHS1250



Congratulations to Joshua Boland—nurse in 2B who is the winner of our July Stockland Mall gift voucher.

Joshua received a letter from a carer detailing outstanding patient care that he provided to her mother during her stay at Fairfield.



Wetherill Park