

March 3, 2014

‘Inspiring Change’ this Women’s Day

South Western Sydney Local Health District has celebrated International Women’s Day (IWD) today with a special screening at Liverpool Hospital of *Girl Rising*, a feature film about the strength of the human spirit and the power of education to change the world.

International Women’s Day, which officially falls on Saturday, March 8, celebrates the achievements of women in the past, present and future.

This year’s theme: ‘Inspiring Change’, is a good reminder to local women and their families of the services and expertise available to support their overall health and wellbeing.

Women’s Health Service manager Rana Qummouh said it was important to recognise that the health of women as caregivers, mothers, daughters and sisters is vital to thriving families and communities.

“We are committed to supporting women of all backgrounds to maintain and improve their own health and to be there when their health is compromised,” Ms Qummouh said.

“As the theme for this year’s Day: ‘Inspiring Change’ indicates, with an ageing population, delivering effective health services to older women has become increasingly important.

“The District provides comprehensive services for women, ranging from health promotion to clinical expertise in maternity services, gynaecology, cancer services and specialist care of newborn babies,” she said.

Meanwhile, the District will also recognise the roles women play within its operations.

Amanda Larkin, Chief Executive of South Western Sydney Local Health District said the organisation was committed to supporting the contributions of women in all aspects of the health care service.

“More than three quarters of all staff of the South Western Sydney Local Health District are women,” Ms Larkin said.

“Their roles are varied and include three directors, general managers, clinicians, nurses, administrators and volunteers.

“We are committed to supporting women of all national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political backgrounds and where possible support and encourage increasing women's access to quality education and meaningful employment.

“As a health service, we recognise the important role of women as caregivers, mothers and daughters and as meaningful members of the workforce who are vital to thriving families and communities,” she said.