

4 January 2019

Couple welcome baby in early hours of the new year

A baby girl that arrived at Fairfield Hospital in the early hours of 2019 is among the first babies born in NSW this year.

The bundle of joy, named Rachael, arrived at 10.05am, weighing 2.54 kilograms and at a length of 47 centimetres.

Little Rachael was one of six babies born at Fairfield Hospital on January 1, compared to four born on the same date in 2018.

The baby's parents Anh Thu Hoang and Quang Ho were one of the first to receive a NSW Government Baby Bundle.

The Baby Bundle, valued at \$300, includes essential items for new parents such as a sleeping bag, play and change mats, thermometers and a first aid kit.

Fairfield Hospital General Manager Ken Hampson said the bundle would provide some relief to new parents.

"We know there are a lot of expenses associated with having a child and, long after leaving our hospital, parents will have important information in this practical baby bundle so they know where to go for extra support," Mr Hampson said.

Parents will receive the Baby Bundle before being discharged from hospital, or after registering their child with NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages in instances where the birth does not occur in a hospital.

The Baby Bundle is part of the NSW Government's \$157 million parenting package including more midwives and family health nurses, investment in testing and treatments for children's diseases, and practical and emotional support to parents.

In 2018-19, \$1.1 million of the parenting package is funding seven additional Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Services clinicians to support women with severe or complex mental health problems and their families during the perinatal period.

The contents of the Baby Bundle meet Australian safety standard and include a sleeping bag, play and change mats, muslin wrap, bath and room thermometers, baby toothbrush, breast pads, first aid kit, board books, face cloth, baby wipes, hand sanitiser, barrier cream and resources on child development and parental wellbeing.