

SOUTH WEST KIDS



Building a healthier
future together

South Western Sydney
Local Health District



Acknowledgment

South Western Sydney Local Health District acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land that falls within the boundaries of South Western Sydney Local Health District - the peoples of the Darug, Dharawal and Gundungurra Nations. We also acknowledge that all of the health facilities across the District are built on their Traditional Lands and we pay our respects to Aboriginal Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal peoples.



Foreword

South West Kids outlines our comprehensive 10-year vision to build a healthier future by providing life-changing care for children and their families.

Childhood is a crucial time, marking the most rapid period of development. The early stages of life shape future learning, behaviour and long-term health. Children and families deserve access to the very best healthcare and services close to home. At South Western Sydney Local Health District, we aim to be a leader in NSW in providing healthcare services for children and their families.

This strategy outlines how we will enhance our health services for infants, children, and young people from birth until the transition to adulthood.

Developed in consultation with the community, our strategy focuses on planning for future expansion of clinical services, engaging with consumers and the wider community, developing our workforce and supporting world-class research.

South western Sydney and its neighbouring regions are experiencing a period of unprecedented growth, with a large proportion of overseas-born residents and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. South West Kids will leverage this unique growth and diversity by leading the delivery of tailored, inclusive, and person-centred children's services across the state.

Our care must be flexible, innovative and culturally responsive to meet the needs of children and their families in the next decade and beyond.

We are incredibly proud of the work we have already achieved developing and refining children's services for the families of our region. South West Kids provides us the opportunity to build a healthier future together, supporting all children to thrive.



Mr Sam Haddad
Board Chair



Ms Sonia Marshall
A/Chief Executive



Dr Raymond Chin
Clinical Director,
Paediatrics and Neonatology



Our Vision

Together, we will be a leading NSW health service supporting children and their families to thrive through all stages of life.



Our Focus

Five key focus areas will elevate SWSLHD to become a leading NSW service for children and their families.



**Healthy Children,
Supported Families**



**Excellence in
Children's Healthcare**



**Impactful Research
and Innovation**



**Partnering with Our
Communities**



**Compassionate and
Expert Teams**

Healthy Children, Supported Families

South West Kids will create a thriving health landscape that offers children and young people a healthy and safe environment in which to grow and develop.

Strong communities require a comprehensive approach to health that prioritises health, safety and wellbeing. We work with individuals, families and communities, and at the state level, to improve social inclusion, access to healthy food choices and greenspace for physical activity.

South West Kids will uplift child health outcomes through a range of targeted initiatives developed in collaboration with other agencies, community settings and providers.

Early intervention and preventative programs will support all children to reach their developmental and health potential, with success marked by improved social, health and wellbeing outcomes.

Child health programs and services must be culturally responsive, inclusive and tailored to meet the unique needs

of the community both locally and more broadly. South West Kids aims to improve health equity and outcomes for our community, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families experiencing vulnerability.

As leaders in child health and safety South West Kids is dedicated to creating safe environments that allow children to thrive. Through the implementation of the 10 child safe standards SWSLHD is committed to being a 'Child Safe Organisation' - protecting the rights and safety of the children and young people who interact with our staff and services.

Particular focus will be on improving the health and wellbeing of families during the first 2000 days of a child's life.





Key Objectives

- Uphold the rights of children by sustaining environments that ensure children are protected in all aspects of their care and interactions within SWSLHD
- Lead the delivery of state-wide initiatives to improve health and safety outcomes.
- Implement innovative and flexible health programs and services that are responsive to community needs and emerging trends in local, national, and global health.
- Improve health equity for priority populations, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families experiencing vulnerabilities.
- Forge collaborative partnerships with local, state, and national stakeholders, advocating for improved access to healthy environments.
- Drive the improvement of child health outcomes by embedding preventative strategies into all current and future aspects of care.



Excellence in Children's Healthcare

South West Kids is committed to building our capability to provide specialty services locally and across our wider health network, with a particular focus on seamless integration between health services and the delivery of healthcare across all life stages.

South West Kids will provide access to high-quality, safe and responsive services closer to home. We will enhance our services to meet the growing needs of our community, as well as ensuring our services are accessible for all children and families.

This expansion has been designed as a robust, staged approach that prioritises clinical service enhancement based on the needs and preferences of our consumers.

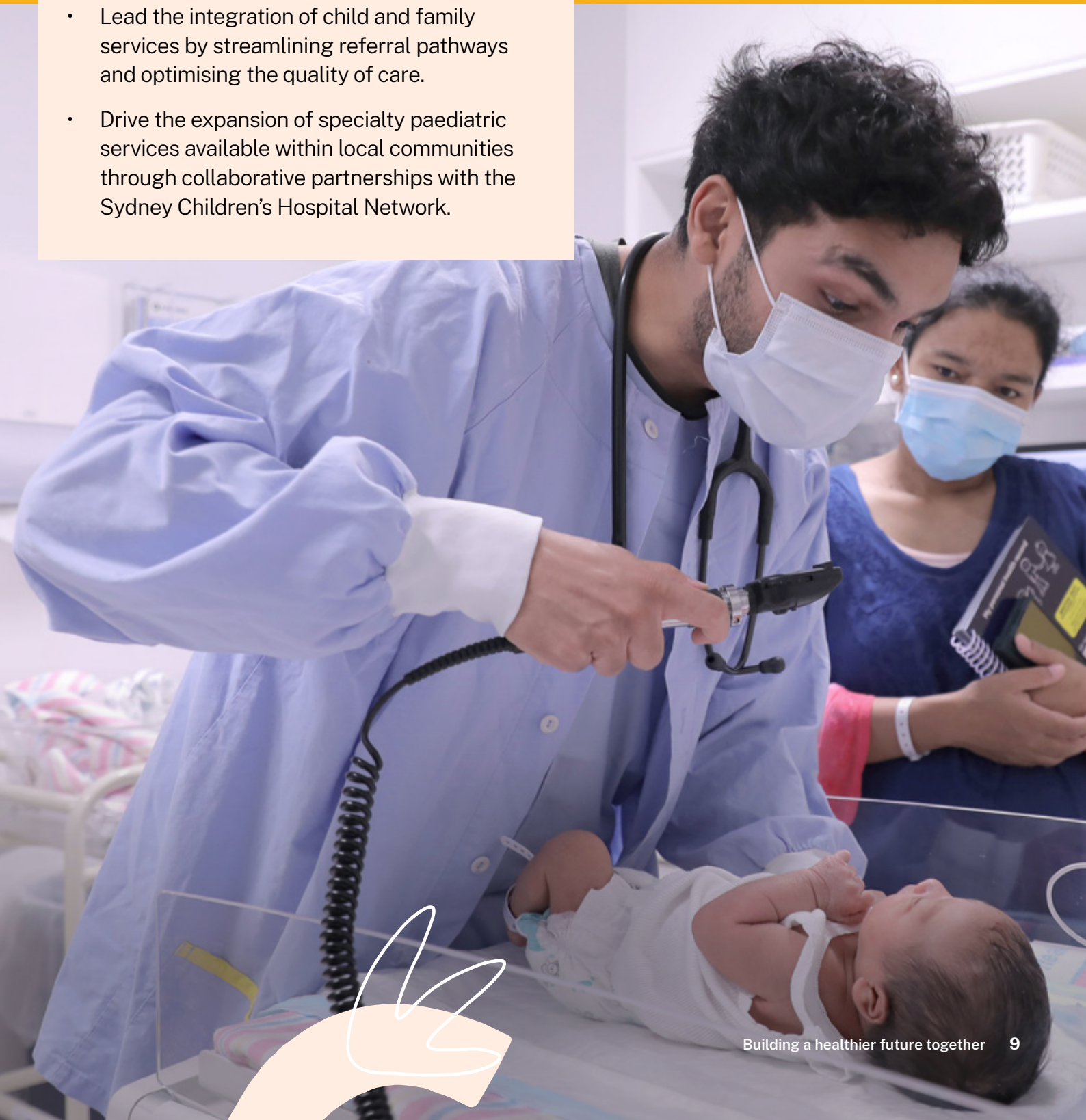
Collaboration between our District and the Sydney Children's Hospital Network (SCHN) will play an integral role in further developing services in the south west to support the local population and surrounding health districts.

Our multidisciplinary child health leaders have identified several clinical priorities, and we have already begun working towards the shift of specialty clinical services closer to home.



Key Objectives

- Strengthen paediatric clinical networks to improve access and better support children and families to thrive.
- Design and implement innovative, evidence-based care that meets communities needs and reflects consumer feedback.
- Lead the integration of child and family services by streamlining referral pathways and optimising the quality of care.
- Drive the expansion of specialty paediatric services available within local communities through collaborative partnerships with the Sydney Children's Hospital Network.



Impactful Research and Innovation

South West Kids will build on our strong culture of research and innovation. By bringing together experts from diverse fields and connecting within our strong NSW paediatric research network, we will create impact on a local, national and global scale.

Our researchers work closely with our communities to ensure research aligns with local needs, is equitable, promotes inclusivity and is engaging and relevant, ultimately leading to research that has a meaningful impact on health outcomes.

South Western Sydney Local Health District's research portfolio is already expanding, with the establishment of the South West Institute for Translational Child Health Research (SWITCH). This multidisciplinary academic unit will grow to distinguish our District as a centre-of-excellence in children's health research.

SWITCH will be pivotal in contributing to the development of a child health research plan which leverages the strengths and diversity of SWSLHD, enhancing partnerships, aligning to the needs of the community and providing a unique point of difference from other paediatric centres.

The ongoing relationship between our District, university partners, Sydney Children's Hospital Network and the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research will be a key enabler. The Ingham Institute will soon expand its footprint within the District, with a new, purpose-built centre underway on the Campbelltown Hospital campus.



Key Objectives

- Elevate SWSLHD as a child health research leader through the development of a targeted research plan.
- Collaborate with children, families and the community to design and deliver research that is meaningful, inclusive and aligned to their needs.
- Grow the South West Sydney Institute for Translational Child Health research (SWITCH) as a collaborative paediatric-focused, multidisciplinary research unit.
- Foster research skills and expertise across multidisciplinary clinical teams, embedding research within care models and services.



Partnering with Our Communities

High-quality, child-centred health services are designed in collaboration with consumers. South West Kids will partner with the community on the design and expansion of our services and facilities.

South West Kids will promote a unique and recognisable identity, inclusive and welcoming for our children and their families. We will differentiate our services by listening to our consumers, engaging with our community and attracting the very best talent to the District.

A comprehensive communication and engagement strategy will be developed to identify and understand community needs, develop a recognisable brand, attract funding and community support, and identify opportunities to promote services and showcase achievements.

Collaborative partnerships across hospitals and health services, general practitioners, education, government and non-government organisations will be optimised to ensure high-quality, coordinated and consistent care.

Working closely with our expanding network of supporters and funding partners, such as local businesses, foundations and donors will enable our services to grow and evolve.



Key Objectives

- Drive collaboration between local health districts and specialty networks and government and non-government organisations to provide care that is coordinated, equitable, accessible and close to home.
- Work with our communities, supporters, and funding partners to improve children's health outcomes and experiences.
- Develop a recognisable South West Kids identity within the community, supported by a comprehensive communication and community engagement strategy.
- Engage NSW Health stakeholders to establish the profile of South West Kids within the health network.
- Promote South West Kids and showcase our achievements.



Compassionate and Expert Teams

South West Kids values the wellbeing of our people, encourages the pursuit of clinical excellence, and supports professional growth. Our healthcare professionals are motivated, highly skilled, innovative and compassionate, and consistently deliver safe child-centred care.

Our staff are our biggest asset and we invest in their ongoing growth and development. Our child health experts will be equipped to meet the current and future needs of our communities by creating leadership pathways, education and training, fostering a positive workplace culture and recognising achievements.

South West Kids will prioritise collaboration within multidisciplinary teams, ensuring our nursing, medical and allied health staff are equipped and supported to deliver care centred around the needs of children and their families.

We are committed to being an employer of choice, providing opportunities to live, work and grow within south western Sydney. South West Kids aims to inspire the next generation of child health leaders, through integrated educational

pathways and strategic collaborations with schools and universities.

Strategic collaboration with other local health districts, specialised paediatric networks including SCHN and other key partners will develop the necessary skills needed to enhance local services.



Key Objectives

- Attract, retain and support a network of dedicated healthcare professionals who consistently deliver high-quality, safe and compassionate care.
- Promote career growth and clinical expertise through innovative education and training.
- Develop targeted leadership pathways to support our multidisciplinary teams.
- Enhance collaborative professional development opportunities with the Sydney Children's Hospital Network and other service delivery partners.



Want to learn more?

To learn more about South Western Sydney Local Health District and our plans for the future, go to the SWSLHD website:

www.swslhd.nsw.gov.au

South Western Sydney Local Health District

Liverpool Hospital Eastern Campus
Locked Mail Bag 7279
Liverpool BC NSW 1871

Tel. (612) 8738 6000

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