$632m for Campbelltown Hospital

The NSW Government will deliver a $632 million upgrade to Campbelltown Hospital, which will include a boost to paediatric and mental health services.

NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian visited the Hospital to announce the funding, which builds on the $134 million investment for Stage 1, completed last year.

“The people of Campbelltown and its surrounds deserve the best possible health care and I’m very proud we will deliver this to the community,” Ms Berejiklian said.

Minister for Health Mr Brad Hazzard said Campbelltown Hospital would be the jewel in the crown for first-class health services.

“We’re seeing a baby boom in the area and I’m very pleased to announce that one of the highlights funded in this Budget will be a major expansion of paediatric services.

“It’s a win for the community, it’s a win for our wonderful frontline medical, nursing and allied health staff and it’s a win for the economic future of the Macarthur area,” he said.

An additional $5 million has been allocated in 2017-18 to commence upgrading the hospital’s carpark.

Stage 2 will include expanded paediatric services with more inpatient beds, enhanced mental health services and additional emergency department and intensive care capacity.

Spotlight on research and innovation

Lifesaving medical treatments, breakthrough technologies and revolutionary procedures were in the spotlight at the annual Health Beyond Research and Innovation Showcase held at the Campbelltown Catholic Club.

Presented by South Western Sydney Local Health District and the Ingham Institute, the event attracted over 600 delegates, 168 abstracts and 39 poster displays.

Over two-days, researchers joined consumers, clinicians, academics and staff to discuss ground-breaking initiatives which harness new ideas, technologies and approaches to the delivery of health care. The Showcase also provided an opportunity for the general public to celebrate the efforts of the research community in Sydney’s south west.

SWSLHD Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said the Showcase was a great opportunity to reflect on the critical thinking happening across the District.

“It was wonderful to hear about so many interesting abstracts, papers and presentations not only from our long standing clinicians and staff, but also from local school students and young medical staff,” she said.

The 2018 Showcase will be bigger and better so save the date for 6 and 7 June 2018.
As part of National Palliative Care Week, a District recognition and awards ceremony was held at Braeside Hospital. Winners were thanked for their heartfelt work and dedication to caring for others. One of the amazing people recognised included Roman Skarsky, a Palliative Care volunteer at Liverpool Hospital who went above and beyond his role with a young patient with down-syndrome, who was on the ward for many months.

The award for Excellence in the Provision of Primary Support to Palliative Care Clients went to all staff in Ward 2G at Bankstown Hospital, who banded together when a young patient with significant pain and emotional angst was admitted, offering support and reassurance to the patient and their family.

Congratulations to all winners.

Heartfelt thanks

Senior Pacific midwives from Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea recently completed a seven week placement at Liverpool Hospital as part of the Pacific Midwifery Leadership Fellowship Program. Funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the program allows Pacific midwives to observe clinical best practice and equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to implement projects in their communities to improve maternal and child health.

Liverpool Hospital has been involved in the program since 2004 with staff saying that it is a great opportunity for mutual learning and building respect among midwifery colleagues.

Learning from the best

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When it comes to rehabilitation, movement is just as important as strength and repetition. A donation from the White Knight Foundation of a new $10,000 exercise machine to Liverpool Hospital has meant physiotherapists and Allied Health staff can better assist patients on their road to recovery.

Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit Director Dr Adeline Hodgkinson said the donated MOTOmed viva 2 machine would allow strength and flexibility training which will aid patient recovery.

A new project will help Vietnamese smokers in south western Sydney to quit smoking and improve their health.

Bỏ Thuốc Sống Khỏe, or Quit & Fit, raises awareness of the health risks of smoking with a focus on stress management, well-being, healthy eating and the importance of physical activity.

The program will involve training and resources for GPs, community information sessions and work with Vietnamese media. For more about the project call Seree on 8738 5900.

A wild night was had by all at the jungle themed Kids of Macarthur Health Foundation Ball. Campbelltown and Camden Hospitals thanked the Foundation for their incredible support over the past 17 years. This year the Foundation is raising money to introduce new simulation mannequins which will enable medical staff to practice life-saving procedures on babies and young children. Last year alone, the Foundation raised $87,000, which enabled the purchase of paediatric medical equipment.

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Where ideas shine
The District is committed to fostering innovation in the workplace. The Innovation Working Group develops and implements strategies to create a culture of innovation in the workplace. If you have ideas about how the organisation can be more innovative, visit the Suggestions page on the Innovation intranet site. All ideas will be reviewed on a monthly basis by the Innovation Working Group.

No better time than now
There’s no better time than now to join the District’s Workplace Giving Program.
At only $1 a week your contribution allows the Barbara May Foundation to continue to run its maternity hospital in Africa, where babies are safely delivered and women’s lives are saved.
Donations are tax-deductible and the full amount goes directly to the Foundation.
To join visit the District’s WPG intranet site.

Networking and toast
The District’s Graduate Management Trainees tested their leadership and networking skills at a recent CEO and Young Professionals Breakfast.
The breakfast is an annual event held by the Institute of Public Administration and this year hosted over 800 young professionals and senior administrators from across NSW.
This year’s event, themed The Public Sector of the Future, facilitated interesting discussion on the future of public administration and managing a multi-generational workforce.
SWSLHD Director of Workforce Glenda Dingwall attended with trainees and young managers from across the District.

New clinic helping refugees
NSW Refugee Health Service launched a new refugee clinic in Fairfield. The new clinic will also run an Australian first program which caters specifically for the health of newly arrived refugee children.
The Early Childhood Program was pioneered to address the unique health needs of newly arrived children from refugee backgrounds. These children often have childhood development issues due to poor nutritional status, exposure to traumatic situations and limited access to necessary vaccinations and general healthcare services.
Through the new Fairfield clinic, early childhood nurses will work in partnership with families to enhance early childhood growth and development. The programs and Clinic were launched in a new space which includes three clinic rooms and is located close to existing refugee services.

Birralee Childcare vacancies
Birralee Childcare Centre now has vacancies available. The Centre provides excellent education and care for children aged six weeks to five years old.
The Centre is located on the Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital campus at the corner of Gallipoli and Eldridge streets and priority is given to health employees.
For more information call 9722 7425.