

DISTRICT NEWS

Leading care, healthier communities

Cam Tran and Souraya Farah at the Fairfield pop-up clinic.



FLU ASSESSMENT CLINICS

- » **Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital**
In the Allied Health Outpatient Building, 25 metres to the right of the hospital's main entrance
- » **Bowral & District Hospital**
Ascot Road, in the outpatients clinic
- » **Campbelltown Hospital**
Parkside Crescent, opposite the park
- » **Fairfield Hospital**
Prairie Vale Road, opposite the Emergency Department entrance
- » **Liverpool Hospital**
Elizabeth Street, 150 metres from the Emergency Department entrance
- » **Pop-up clinics**
Various locations

Planning our recovery

Teams of friendly staff are popping up all over south western Sydney to offer COVID-19 testing close to home.

South Western Sydney Local Health District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said maintaining a high level of testing was a key priority as the District began the gradual re-opening of services.

"We've come so far in the past couple of months and we are continuing to work together as we plan for the future," Ms Larkin said.

"We've formed a Recovery Taskforce that will work hand-in-hand with the Emergency Operations Centre to plot our way forward and the pop-up and drive-through clinics are part of this.

"They help us control community transmission and keep our testing numbers

up - both vital to keep our community and staff safe," Ms Larkin said.

The District is operating two pop-up clinics, which have visited Miller, Liverpool, Warragamba, Bankstown, Fairfield, Narellan and Campbelltown.

"Our clinic at Warragamba received praise from NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian for our rapid response to a confirmed case in the area," Ms Larkin said.

"I couldn't be more proud of the work we have done. We are well prepared for the weeks and months ahead."



The pop-up team at Warragamba.



Health
South Western Sydney
Local Health District

Chief Executive Message



Ms Amanda Larkin, Chief Executive, South Western Sydney Local Health District.

It's hard for me to express just how proud I am of you all.

Not only are we well prepared to care for our community should cases of COVID-19 increase over winter, but through our testing regimes and physical distancing practices, we have played a role in suppressing the impact of the virus to date.

We are now moving into a new era, where restrictions are lifting and we are taking gradual steps toward

recovery, without losing sight of our new ways of working, or of the fact that COVID-19 is still with us.

In May, we celebrated International Day of the Midwife and International Nurses Day. We weren't able to gather as we usually would, but the outpouring of encouragement and kindness from our community was palpable and well-deserved.

I am truly grateful for your fantastic team effort and thank you for giving your utmost every day to provide safe and high-quality care in these changing times.

From the boardroom

With the gradual easing of the coronavirus restrictions, the Board is looking forward to visiting to our facilities and services to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our staff during the pandemic.

Your commitment to safe and high quality care in these challenging times and every day is truly inspirational and underpins the District's Strategic Plan 2018-2021.

We welcome the plan's mid-point review, which ensures important new developments in health, such as telehealth and virtual care, are embedded in our organisation into the future.

The District's new Equity Framework will further guide our work in achieving the plan's vision of "leading care, healthier communities".

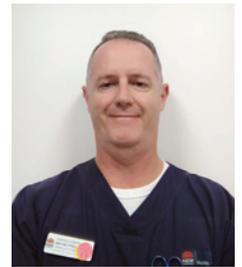
Thank you to you all for your ongoing commitment to providing outstanding care for our patients and keeping our community safe.

60 seconds with...

Wayne Phillips

What is your role?

I'm the Clinical Nurse Consultant for Paediatrics at Fairfield Hospital. I've run the staff flu vaccination program at the hospital for the past three years.



How did you end up running the vaccination clinic?

They need an accredited immuniser to run the clinic, and having spent 25 of my 28 years of nursing in paediatrics, I have the right qualification.

Were the clinics operated differently because of COVID-19?

For the last two years, we've run a drop-in clinic for two-and-a-half months of the year. This year we wanted to do it a bit quicker, so we have gone around to different work spaces to make it more convenient for everyone. I think we might look at doing it this way in future, because it was a really efficient way of getting to people.

What would you say to anyone who hasn't had the flu vaccination yet?

Unless you have had a severe reaction in the past, you should get it. You don't want to be going anywhere with flu-like symptoms this year.

Team skills

The mental health inpatient nursing team at Liverpool Hospital is working hard in preparation to care for any consumers who have a COVID-19 infection.



Mental health nurses hone their skills

This has involved developing a separate COVID-19 unit. Nursing Unit Manager Kerri Brigden leads a wonderful team of nurses who have put themselves forward to work in the unit.

"They have been working on how the unit will function and been involved in simulation exercises," she said. Staff are upskilling in a range of areas, including infection prevention and control.

Research leaders

Our staff are leading COVID-19 research with more than 15 clinical trials underway in south western Sydney.

District Director of Research Professor Les Bokey said the trials were both community and hospital-based and contributed to a growing body of research on COVID-19.

“One of the trials is investigating a device which looks for changes in temperature, respiratory rate, heart rate and oxygen levels for people recovering at home from COVID-19,” Professor Bokey said.

“In the hospital setting we have several trials for patients with mild to severe cases of COVID-19. We are also conducting data collection studies so we have local data on the effects of the virus in our community.”

For more information contact the Clinical Trials Support Unit on swslhd-clinicaltrialssupportunit@health.nsw.gov.au



Dr Manoj Saxena and Professor Connie Katelaris are among the leaders of the District's COVID-19 research.

Projects on track

The Liverpool Health and Academic Precinct project team has recently welcomed two new members – Scrubs the Pug and Toolman Ted. These cute project mascots will share their redevelopment adventures, helping to showcase the extensive stakeholder collaboration and range of construction activities and milestones.



Scrubs the Pug and Toolman Ted

The stage two redevelopment of Campbelltown Hospital is well underway, with the ground floor slab of the new clinical services building now complete. Plans for ‘Hospital Street’, which will connect the existing buildings to the new build, are now ramping up with a number of services set to relocate.

Meanwhile, the new Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital emergency department has celebrated structural completion, allowing for internal partitions and framing to commence, and scaffolding around the new build at Bowral & District Hospital has been removed, unveiling the building's façade.

Fantastic Support

The south western Sydney community has opened its heart to our staff as they fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The donation of a fleet of 10 SUVs from MG Australia is among many donations we have received from businesses, community members and volunteers.



District and MG Australia staff with some of the SUVs

“We thank MG Australia and everyone for their kind donations,” District Director Strategy and Partnerships Professor Josephine Chow said.

The SUVs will be used as rapid response vehicles to transport essential medical equipment and goods during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stylish team

TYE coaches doing the rounds of our facilities to look after staff health and wellbeing are sporting brand new purple shirts.

They're supporting staff as we navigate our response to COVID-19 and move forward as an organisation in coming months.

Contact the team via email at SWSLHD-TransformingYourExperience@health.nsw.gov.au or by phone on 8738 6046.



TYE coaches show off their new purple shirts

Celebrating our nurses and midwives

Blue and purple hearts were spread across our facilities in recognition of our wonderful nurses and midwives who put their heart and soul into caring for our community every day.

Outstanding staff received awards, while donated treats found their way to all our facilities and services for International Day of the Midwife on 8 May and International Nurses Day on 12 May. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

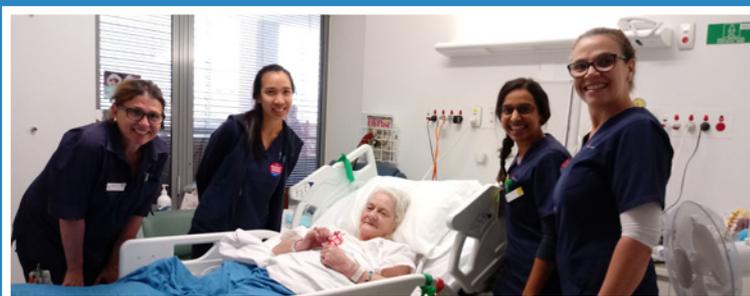


Celebrating volunteers

Volunteers may not be able to come to our hospitals now, but their support and care is still being felt by our patients and clients.

Staff distributed chocolate love hearts to the patients of Liverpool and Camden Palliative Care wards for Mother's Day on behalf of the palliative care volunteers.

In celebration of Palliative Care Week, the Liverpool team received new bed runners and pillows sewn by generous community members.



Celebrating Mother's Day in Liverpool Hospital's 4C ward.

IMS+ rolls out

Thank you to everyone who has helped in the rollout of our brand new IMS+ system - the uptake has been fantastic.

Managers who have not logged into the new system should do so as soon as possible.

For more information, visit the IMS+ portal on the intranet or email swslhd-imsplus@health.nsw.gov.au.

Contact us

To submit a story, event or provide images contact us on 8738 6848 or email SWSLHD-Communications@health.nsw.gov.au. Don't forget to follow us and share our posts on social media @ South Western Sydney Local Health District.

