



# TASMANIA'S HEALTH PLAN

Implementation Newsletter Issue 9, December 2008

## Tobacco cessation – no ifs or butts!

### Implementation of Tasmania's Health Plan Smoking Cessation Project is well under way.

You may have seen the "Bubblewrap" media campaign already and there are three more planned for January, March and May 2009.

The appointment of statewide and regional smoking cessation coordinators has also started.

Statewide Cessation Coordinator Gwyneth Fullard, who previously managed the Smoke-Free Pregnancy Project at Quit Tasmania, started work on December 10.

Ms Fullard's first tasks are to establish a framework, provide leadership and develop a standardised smoking cessation training program to deliver to health professionals.

Regional Cessation Coordinators – hospital-based nurses – are in place in the state's North and South.

- Stephen Youl began work on December 15 within the Launceston Alcohol and Drug Service offices but will move to the Launceston General Hospital later.
- Shirley Wyper will start work at the Royal Hobart Hospital by the end of January 2009.

### *Tasmania's Health Plan delivers \$2.7 million to cut smoking rates*

The Regional Cessation Coordinator position for the North West was not filled but will be readvertised in January 2009.

The State Government's \$2.7 million quit campaign includes:

- \$160,000 to Quit Tasmania for increased anti-smoking media campaigns and an additional full-time counsellor for the Quitline 13 78 48.
- \$100,000 to Quit to double their media campaigns from two to four in 2008-2009.
- \$60,000 to Quit for an extra Quitline advisor to provide counselling support.
- \$100,000 to a consortium led by the Pharmaceutical Society and including the Pharmacy Guild and Quit Tasmania to conduct a social marketing/media campaign early in 2009 to promote quitting options.

This media campaign will encourage smokers to visit their local pharmacist for advice and support on quitting and to provide training to pharmacists so they can deliver up-to-date and consistent advice and information.



## Fight Cancer Foundation finds house that patients call home

**A key feature of Tasmania's Health Plan is to provide more affordable patient accommodation and transport for those who must travel to receive specialist medical treatment.**

As a result DHHS has helped the not-for-profit Fight Cancer Foundation find a suitable premise close to the Royal Hobart Hospital. The department also provided \$70,000 to help establish the house.

Health minister Lara Giddings recently opened the low cost accommodation and pledged ongoing support through Tasmania's Patient Travel Assistance Scheme (PTAS).

The State Government also recently announced significant increases to PTAS payments from December 1.

## Healthy careers under microscope

**Health minister Lara Giddings will launch a discussion paper entitled "Tasmania's Health Professionals: Leading the Way" on January 12 as part of the Tasmania's Health Plan workforce sustainability initiative.**

A review of the nursing career structure starts with the release of a consultation paper on March 31 and ends on June 30.

***Tasmania's Health Plan now boasts 25 completed projects with 80 more on the go!***

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## CanNET cancer network can ... and does!

**CanNET Tasmania, the first clinical network set up under Tasmania's Health Plan, is working towards developing a Tasmanian cancer plan to improve cancer services.**

Clinical networks link a range of health professionals working in the same clinical area (for example) cancer, throughout community health facilities, hospitals and specialist centres. The networks also include other service providers, consumers and health-related non-government organisations like Cancer Council Tasmania.

Eventually CanNET will bring together all service providers working in cancer care to better share information and resources as well as pooling expertise and encouraging a team approach for the benefit of Tasmanian cancer patients.

CanNET's approach will particularly help health professionals and clinicians working in small facilities and isolated areas.

### *Tasmania's Health Plan is helping bring cancer community together*

Funded by the Australian Government, CanNET has also recently established a professional development plan for all clinicians and health professionals working in the cancer sector.

Importantly, CanNET is setting out how the Tasmanian Cancer Network will establish a multidisciplinary approach to cancer service delivery. This approach develops an integrated patient care pathway that leads from diagnosis through to life after cancer.

For more information about CanNET developments visit: [www.canceraustralia.gov.au/cannet-homepage/about-cannet/where-is-cannet.aspx](http://www.canceraustralia.gov.au/cannet-homepage/about-cannet/where-is-cannet.aspx)

## Creation of Clarence Integrated Care Centre continues

**Services at the Clarence Community Health Centre are expanding to establish a modern Integrated Care Centre by December 2010.**

The new facility will provide a wide range of health services including local services for people with complex healthcare needs who usually attend hospital. This includes management of chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and asthma. It will also provide access to GPs through a GP Super Clinic operating as part of the centre as well as other primary healthcare services such as dental and allied health.

The re-development will cost \$18 million.

The Department of Health and Human Services has just engaged Consultant John Ramsay & Associates under Tasmania's Health Plan to develop a governance model for the facility, which will also serve as a model for other Tasmanian centres. For more information visit:

[www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/future\\_health/clarence\\_integrated\\_care\\_centre](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/future_health/clarence_integrated_care_centre)

## Partners in Health, partner in progress



**Partners in Health, a strategic partnership between DHHS and the UTAS Faculty of Health Science, has just released its 2007-08 Annual Report.**

The report outlines work undertaken between January 2007 and November 2008 and identifies some key projects for 2009.

Partners in Health has also recently developed Future Directions, a strategy that sets out a clear vision for the partnership for 2008-2011.

Future Directions draws together the strategic objectives of Tasmania's Health Plan and UTAS's EDGE 2 and links these with Tasmania Together's strategic objectives.

All of these documents are available on the new Partners in Health website -

<http://www.healthsci.utas.edu.au/pih/index.html>

## Project Progress Report is now a click away online

The latest progress report on all [Tasmania's Health Plan](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/futurehealth) projects is available at [www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/futurehealth](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/futurehealth)

## Tasmania's Health Plan

To find out more:

**visit** [www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/thp](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/thp)

**email** [future.health@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:future.health@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

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