

MEDIA RELEASE

6th Nov 2019

Sydney North Health Network Launch Annual Report with special event *Making an Impact on Improving Health in Sydney's North*

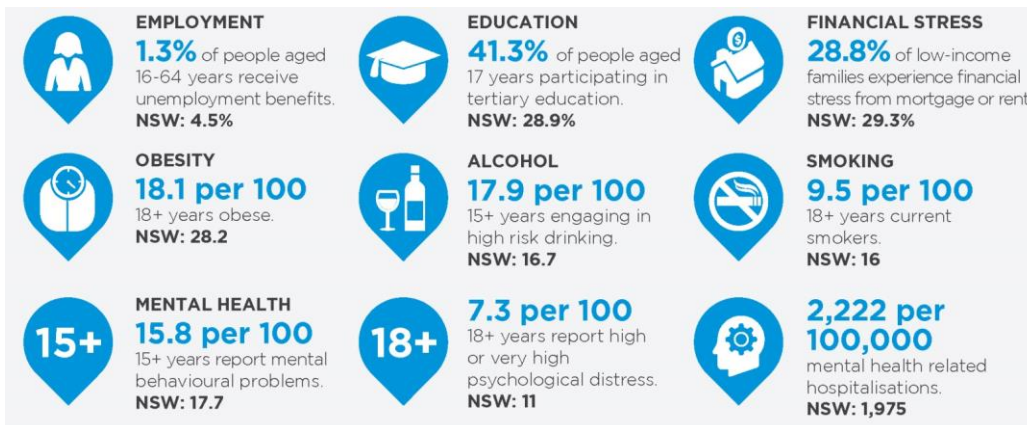
The Northern Sydney PHN, operated by the Sydney North Health Network, launches their **2018/19 Annual Report** this **Thurs 7th November** with a special event/AGM. The topic of this special event this year is **“The Future of Primary Care in a Digital World”** and will take place at the Concourse in Chatswood. The focus of this year’s report has been – Making an Impact!

“We have worked collaboratively with our network of local health providers including general practice, allied health, the Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) and other public and private health and social care services. Through these partnerships we have commissioned mental health services, alcohol and other drug services, hospital avoidance services, chronic disease management services, care navigation and management support through education, clinical health pathways, and community health literacy programs reaching over 20,000 people in our community. We continue to work with the 1,494 general practitioners and over 2,000 allied health providers in our community to improve health services for our community as well as improving the provider experience through education, quality improvement activities and better connectivity between services,” says Sydney North Health Network CEO Lynelle Hales.

Sydney’s North is impacted by these top 4 health issues:



SNHN’s population health needs assessment and healthcare consultation process has identified the key social determinant factors impacting on health in the north of Sydney in particular are:



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Sydney North Health Network has responded this year with some of the following results:

1. **\$14m allocated** to services that meet the needs of local communities across mental health; alcohol and other drug community services; Aboriginal health; and hospital avoidance and discharge services.
2. **Mental Health Services**
 - **42.6%** increase in client uptake with **3,635** clients supported.
 - **46.2%** increase in the number of mental health sessions delivered.
 - **23.7%** increase in the number of new referrals received between 2017/18 to 2018/19.
3. **Alcohol & Other Drug Services**
 - **595** clients serviced in 2018/19.
 - Over **3,000** Alcohol & Other Drug treatment sessions delivered.
4. **2375% increase** in Medication records uploaded to **My Health Record** by pharmacies.
5. **317% increase** in GP Health summaries uploaded to **My Health Record** to share with their patient.
6. A total of **1,062** clients were serviced through the **Social Work Program** with **547 GPs** referring into the program.
7. **418 clients** were serviced through **Hospital Discharge Services**.
8. **1000+ people** attended Community Activation Workshops, Connectedness Groups and Health Expos at 45 community events held in 6 languages.
9. **GPs in Schools** facilitators delivered sessions to **over 4,300** year 11 students across **30 schools** in Northern Sydney - **an increase of 84%!**
10. **3155** GPs, Primary Care Nurses, Pharmacists, Allied Health professionals and Practice Staff attended the **111** SNHN provided education events.

The strategic focus of the Sydney North Health Network moving into the future will be to ensure:

- ✓ Services are delivered where and how people want them.
- ✓ People can find and access what they need.
- ✓ People understand and practice the fundamental principles of healthy living to achieve best health and wellbeing.
- ✓ Communities are linked and supported to contribute to overall health and wellbeing.

To read **SNHN Annual Report 2018/19** in full [CLICK HERE](#).

SNHN CEO Lynelle Hales is available for interview.

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