

MEDIA RELEASE

15th March 2023

Sydney North Health Network and Street Side Medics Providing Free Medical Services to the Homeless to Meet Growing Demand

Sydney North Health Network and Street Side Medics are providing free healthcare to the homeless to meet the growing demand for vulnerable people's medical services across the northern Sydney region.

As part of Sydney North Health Network's commitment to improving health outcomes for vulnerable people in its region, the primary health network will continue to fund a weekly Street Side Medics mobile health clinic in Manly along with the weekly supplementary clinic in Hornsby it funded this year.

The Street Side Medics mobile clinics make primary healthcare accessible to approximately 1250 homeless people annually in the northern Sydney region by offering free-of-charge, walk-in healthcare appointments.

Street Side Medics clinics operate in Manly's Corso every Monday evening, and now, a weekly Thursday evenings supplementary clinic is available at Jersey Street, Hornsby. The volunteer medical team also alternate between on-site health clinics for residents at [Ebbs House](#) in Brookvale and a northside women's shelter.

Qualified health professional volunteers staff all the clinics and work from well-equipped mobile medical practice vans. This helps vulnerable homeless people to obtain comprehensive primary health care services at regular General Practices standards.

Sydney North Health Network Chief Executive Officer, Lynelle Hales, said, 'Street Side Medics is delivering a comprehensive health service to those vulnerable people in our region, unable to access mainstream primary health care. Sydney North Health Network supports this important, community-based program to allow more people to access local healthcare regardless of their circumstances.'

Streetside Medics CEO David Ballhausen welcomed the continued support stating, 'We greatly appreciate the ongoing financial support of SNHN, as well as the close and cooperative working relationship we have with its team, which strengthens and sustains our capacity to deliver this service to such a vulnerable population across northern Sydney.'

For more information about Street Side Medic's work and the location of northside clinics, visit www.streetsidemedics.com.au

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ABOUT: Sydney North Health Network www.sydneynorthhealthnetwork.org.au

The Northern Sydney Primary Health Network, operated by the Sydney North Health Network – a not-for-profit organisation – is one of 31 Primary Health Networks (PHNs) established by the Australian Government to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for the community. Our focus is on patients who are at risk of poor health outcomes. We work to improve their care coordination so they receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

ABOUT: Street Side Medics www.streetsidemedics.com.au

Street Side Medics is a not-for-profit organisation that provides a free, GP-led, mobile medical service to those in our community who are vulnerable and experiencing homelessness. We make a long-term commitment to the communities in which we work, consistently delivering a Clinic from the same location in that community, at the same time, on the same day, every week. Our Clinics are staffed by medical volunteers who give their time freely and are passionate about providing the best possible evidence-based care to our Patients. We operate from well-equipped Vans, which, coupled with our clinically qualified Volunteers, enables us to provide an extensive primary health care service to our Patients. We seek to meet the primary health care needs of the most vulnerable in our community while assisting them, when appropriate, to re-engage with mainstream primary health care services.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES**Available for interview:**

Lynelle Hales, CEO, Sydney North Health Network

David Ballhausen, CEO, Street Side Medics

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