MEDIA RELEASE





WA Primary Health Alliance launches latest Strategic Plan

8 August 2023

WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) has released its <u>Strategic Plan 2023-2026</u>. The new Plan builds on the principles of the previous Strategic Plan and takes account of the evolving primary health care environment.

It sets out our priorities for the next three years and a path towards our vision of a more connected primary health care system – a system that minimises barriers to accessing primary health care and ensures those with the greatest health needs are cared for as close to home as possible.

It is guided by the Quintuple Aim for Health Care Improvement, in particular the fifth dimension of health equity, given the Australian Government's clear direction for PHNs to focus on people who are most at risk of poor health outcomes due to compromised access to health care services.

Over the past three years, we have progressed the foundational enablers of our work, including tools to support the delivery of safe, high quality, culturally appropriate care and provide better oversight of data, provider performance and patient outcomes.

Internally, we have been focusing on building our digital and data capability and capacity, investing in digital and data systems, infrastructure and literacy.

These will stand us in good stead as we expect there will be an increasingly acute lens on digital health and data and the need to evidence the outcomes of the activities that we commission.

The Australian Government has also signalled a growing remit for PHNs, seeing us as critical stewards of the primary health care reform agenda with its focus on enabling high quality, integrated, person centred care.

We will work with our commissioned service providers, general practice, aged care and allied health to shape that policy reform and help them navigate it where we can.

Notably, we will have a strengthened focus on diversity and inclusion, with multicultural communities and LGBTIQA+ communities added to our health priority areas.

At the request of our Board, we have updated our mission to clearly articulate a focus on a 'one health system' philosophy which we are working towards in everything we do. This will be evidenced through facilitating local integrated health precincts and cementing formal partnerships with key jurisdictional agencies.

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About Us: WA Primary Health Alliance shapes, strengthens and sustains primary health care through partnerships and strategies that improve people's access and health outcomes. As the operator of WA's three Primary Health Networks – part of the Australian Government national PHN program – we help communities and people most at risk of poor health to get better access to care closer to home. We achieve this by supporting general practice to deliver the highest quality patient care, funding local primary health care services based on community needs and connecting local services to simplify the health care system. Along with our strong partnerships, our statewide structure allows us to deliver better health, together for the benefit of the WA community. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au