HEALTHY WA AWARDS 2009

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Director General’s Award - HESTA
Peter Baldwin Award - AIM
Healthy Workforce Award
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Winner: Implementation of the Magnet Recognition Program at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital has joined a list of some of the world’s most respected hospitals after it was recently awarded Magnet accreditation by the American Nurse Credentialing Centre (ANCC). This award recognises hospitals for being centres for excellence in nursing and delivery of high quality care to patients.

SCGH becomes the first hospital in Western Australia and only the second in Australia to be recognised as a ‘Magnet Hospital’. There are just 332 Magnet hospitals worldwide.

The Magnet program supports a work environment that is supportive, flexible and adaptable and promotes staff, supports education and professional development and encourages innovation based on evidence. Since implementation of the program, workplace vacancy rates have reduced significantly.

L-R: Sponsor Bernadette Kenny from McKesson Asia-Pacific; Sue Davis and Sue Clements from SCGH; and Hon Dr Kim Hames, MLA, Minister for Health
Finalist: FISH philosophy in South Inland Zone; Child & Adolescent Community Health

The FISH philosophy was selected in 2008 as a strategy to boost morale, energy, passion and workplace satisfaction. Since using the FISH philosophy, staff feel empowered to discuss what changes are impacting on them and to utilise team support to work through change issues. The program was implemented because of its ability to create a work culture that builds stronger relationships and equips staff to face challenges more effectively.

Finalist: The Productive Ward - releasing time to care; Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

The Productive Ward project defines how ward processes and the physical environment of the ward can impact on the amount of time nurses have available for direct patient care. Staff follow through set modules giving them the structure to take apart routines, frequent procedures and processes and rebuild them in a way that is safer, more efficient and gives them more time for care.
Healthy Hospitals Award  
Sponsored by GESB

Winner: Turning Clocks to improve patient turning regimes; Armadale Kelmscott Memorial Hospital

The Turning Clocks were developed as part of the pressure ulcer prevention project at Armadale Kelmscott Memorial Hospital as one strategy to minimise the patients’ risk of developing a pressure ulcer during their stay.

Pressure ulcers are a serious problem that can lead to pain, a longer stay in hospital and slower recovery from health problems. The clock is positioned above the patients’ bed and alerts staff that the patient has been identified as being at risk for developing pressure ulcers. Since their introduction there has been a downward trend in the incidence of pressure ulcers.

L-R: Hon Dr Kim Hames, MLA, Minister for Health; award recipient Sandra Polmear from Armadale Kelmscott Memorial Hospital; and sponsor Sue O’Donnell from GESB.
Finalist: ‘Children’s care closer to home’ - how a health network can promote paediatric service delivery partnerships in WA; WA Child & Youth Health Nursing Network.

The WA Child & Youth Health Nursing Network was established to provide advocacy in shaping future paediatric service development and created a formal communication link for nurses working in the field to share knowledge and work collaboratively in the implementation of evidenced based best practice.

It has helped secondary hospital sites increase their capacity to accommodate children and provide care closer to home and shared care models for children with chronic disease.
Healthy Partnerships Award
Sponsored by AIM-UWA Alliance

Winner: Culture and Care - planning an inpatient mental health service for the North West; Kimberley Mental Health and Drug Service

An extensive indigenous consumer, carer and community consultation process was undertaken on how to best provide the care for the new acute psychiatric inpatient facility planned for Broome. The project resulted in a Cultural Respect Framework and Action Plan along with service recommendations. This work has opened up new channels of communication between the Kimberley Mental Health and Drug Service and the indigenous community and has paved the way for a truly culturally respectful mental health service for the North West.

L-R: Sponsor Suellen Tapsall from AIM-UWA Alliance; award recipient Dr Beth Wilson; and Hon Dr Kim Hames, MLA, Minister for Health.
Finalist: Triple P - Positive Parenting Program in WA; Child & Adolescent Community Health

Substantial evidence indicates that improving parenting skills is one of the most cost-effective ways of reducing the incidence of conduct problems and improving the well-being and health status of children.

The Triple P - Positive Parenting Program is an evidence based intervention that aims to prevent behavioural, emotional and developmental problems in children by enhancing the knowledge, skills and confidence of parents. Western Australian research has shown that Triple P has the potential to reduce the prevalence of conduct and behavioural problems by up to 37 per cent. Triple P in WA is a collaborative initiative between Child & Adolescent Community Health and the Department of Education and Training.

Finalist: ‘Welcome to Your New Baby’ Magazine; Child & Adolescent Community Health

The parenting magazine ‘Welcome to Your New Baby’ ensures all parents of a new baby in WA have access to information and services appropriate to their needs. The articles are on topics that parents may encounter with their new baby, including ‘Get Connected’, a list of useful resources for parents to access additional information and support. Child & Adolescent Community Health identified the need for this resource and focused on parents of a new baby as it is well known that early childhood experiences influence learning, emotional and social development and health and have an enduring impact on their future wellbeing.
Healthy Communities Award
Sponsored by Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute

Winner: Liquor licensing action to reduce alcohol-related harm or ill-health; Drug and Alcohol Office

An important cornerstone in the comprehensive approach to prevent alcohol-related harm in WA has been a committed program of over a decade of public health involvement in liquor licensing action. The program aims to minimise harm or ill-health to people, or any group of people due to the use of alcohol.

The Prevention Directorate, Drug and Alcohol Office, undertakes a range of liquor licensing strategies to create safer drinking settings, promote the responsible service of alcohol and prevent alcohol-related problems. Building and providing support for local stakeholders and community groups is also a priority.

While prevention work takes time to achieve outcomes, liquor licensing action often achieves results quickly that create an opportunity for other evidence-based strategies to be implemented effectively.

There are no other health agencies in Australia that have advocated and supported such a strong public health role in liquor licensing action in their jurisdiction. There are no other agencies that ensure that information regarding harm or ill-health due to the use of liquor is presented to the Licensing Authority. Significant results have been achieved and much harm prevented as a result of the action taken.

L-R: Sponsor Prof Phillip Della from Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute; award recipient Naomi Henrickson; and Hon Dr Kim Hames, MLA, Minister for Health
Finalist: Challis Parenting and Early Years Centre; Child & Adolescent Community Health

Challis Parenting and Early Years Centre is a joint initiative between the Department Education and Training, NGOs and Child and Adolescent Community Health. The Centre is located on the grounds of the Challis Primary School / Challis Early Childhood Education Centre in Armadale. The objectives of the Centre are to improve access to physical and allied health support, improve the child’s transition to school through enhanced learning, social, emotional, and behaviour development, and enhanced parenting skills. The ‘Kartajin Danjoo’ (‘Learning Together’) program targets Aboriginal children aged 0-4 and their parent(s)/carers.

Finalist: Nurse Pap Smear Provider Program; Nursing & Midwifery Office

The Nurse Pap Smear Provider (NPSP) program was implemented in 1998 to maximise the opportunities for the early detection of cervical cancer in Western Australian women. The program relates directly to both the WA Cancer Screening Service and the Australian Better Health Initiative which supports the early detection of risk factors. More than 100 Nurse Pap Smear Providers are currently contributing positively to women’s health in WA - particularly in remote areas. Since 2006, credentialed nurses have taken more than 14,000 Pap smears from women who may not have otherwise been screened. Almost 1000 women with low grade abnormalities have been recalled for follow up, while another 200 have received timely treatment for suspected or proven high grade malignancies.
Healthy Resources Award
Sponsored by iSOFT

Winner: Expansion of Baby Friendly Health Initiative accreditation in WA hospitals with maternity facilities; Women’s & Newborn Health Network

Baby Friendly Health Initiative (BFHI) is a joint WHO and UNICEF project which aims to give every baby the best start in life by creating a health care environment where breastfeeding is the norm and practices are known and followed to promote the health and wellbeing of all mothers and babies.

BFHI accreditation is a quality improvement measure and if a hospital accomplishes accreditation it demonstrates that it offers and provides the highest standard of care to all mothers and babies in breastfeeding.

The development of the WA Health BFHI policy and package has led to the establishment of statewide resources that are branded; provide a consistent message, easily accessible and adoptable to all hospital settings with maternity facilities.
Finalist: Turning Clocks to improve patient turning regimes; Armadale Kelmscott Memorial Hospital

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Finalist: CDIS - a client centred information management system - reforming the Child Health Development Service

The Child Development Information System (CDIS) was developed with extensive input from clinicians, administrative staff and management to ensure that the system met the clinical and business needs of the organisation. CDIS has streamlined administrative processes, improved service delivery through more efficient waitlist management and for the first time delivered service-wide data to facilitate service planning and coordinated scheduling across sites.
Healthy Leadership Award
Sponsored by the University of Western Australia

Winner: North Metropolitan Area Health Service Mental Health seclusion and restraint reduction Beacon Project

Eleven National sites were chosen to implement the Beacon Project to reduce and where possible eliminate seclusion and restraint episodes from within public mental health hospitals. The project has demonstrate how strong medical and nursing leadership, the use of simple but relevant data to inform practice and the introduction of tools and techniques which engage the consumer in their own recovery, has led to a sustained reduction in seclusion episodes over the past 18 months from an Area-wide perspective. There have also been improved outcomes for patients and improved therapeutic relationships with staff. The project has involved consumer and carer input to assist with the overall strategic direction taken by the project.

L-R: Sponsor Prof Matthew Knuiman from the University of Western Australia; award recipient Bred Ryan; and Hon Dr Kim Hames, MLA, Minister for Health.
Finalist: Kidney Health Checks - Promoting community awareness of risk factors for developing chronic kidney disease; Armadale Health Service

The Kidney Health Check project was conducted at Armadale Health Service. With Renal Consultant supervision, this nurse practitioner led project provided the public with a free comprehensive kidney disease risk factor screening.

Deterioration of kidney function leads to Chronic Kidney Disease, a silent disease with up to 90 percent of kidney function loss before symptoms are apparent. Targeting the seven known risk factors is vital in early detection.

The community showed good response to the project from the notice in the local community paper with 270 people participating in the screening. Many did not know about the risk factors, partially the close links between diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease being the causative factors to kidney damage.

The Director General’s Award
Sponsored by HESTA

Winner: Public health response to the Pandemic H1N1 2009 influenza outbreak; Public Health Division

This project involved the Public Health Division’s leadership, primarily by the Communicable Disease Control and the Disaster Management, Regulation and Planning Directorates, in the response to the emergence of a new and novel pandemic virus in WA.

The project has closely focused on prevention of disease and promotion of health and wellbeing during an influenza pandemic. This has involved extensive communication with all segments of the community on how to prevent, manage and contain the pandemic influenza. Utilising a range of communications, from pamphlets to press conferences, the Public Health Division has worked to ensure that the community was well-informed and understood the ramifications of the disease and its management.
The development of a specific Aboriginal pandemic influenza plan has been instrumental in ensuring optimal information has been provided and that management of Aboriginal patients in regional and remote areas, as well as in the metropolitan area, is effective. These strategies have been instrumental in ensuring that the sicker and more vulnerable patients are getting priority within the WA Health system.

Finalist: Dental Health Services’ Innovation Program

The Innovation Program was established to create a shared vision; a communication pathway between field and head office staff and to increase engagement by all staff to drive continuous improvement in a sustained manner. The Program continues to provide a very effective vehicle for staff to generate ideas and increased engagement of staff.
Peter Baldwin Memorial Award
Sponsored by AIM

Peter Baldwin, a long serving Human Resource Officer at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, was a man who genuinely cared about people. He demonstrated this in his day to day dealings with all people and in his concern to ensure the development of the staff working with him.

When Peter passed away the industry felt there was a need to commemorate his outstanding service. This also allowed the opportunity to recognise the achievement of other Department of Health employees involved in the provision of human resource services.

The Peter Baldwin Memorial Award is awarded to a Department of Health employee working in a human resource management role who displays the same characteristics as those of Peter Baldwin:

- Makes a valuable contribution towards the development of employees
- Displays empathy for employees in the Department of Health
- Possesses excellent interpersonal skills

The award recipient for 2009 is Karla Rennick, Human Resources Officer for WA Country Health Service - Pilbara.

Karla was nominated by a number of different staff members from the regional office, regional hospitals and also from Health Corporate Network in Perth, which in itself is a milestone achievement. Across all the nominations, Karla was described as being a well respected employee with a caring and compassionate nature who treats all staff of all levels with empathy.

In her role she has made a significant contribution to improving and streamlining processes between the Pilbara and HCN in Perth, delivery of induction material, developing recruitment flow charts, educating nurse manager and updating documentation.

Colleagues say Karla gives freely of her time to others and is fantastic at handling delicate situations. Her communication and interpersonal skills are excellent; she is unfailingly polite and possesses great corporate knowledge which she freely shares. Karla is a very worthy recipient of the Peter Baldwin Award for 2009.