

10 April 2015

Youth Week 2015 – It Starts With Us Improving sexual health information and STI testing for young people in South Eastern Sydney

Young people, aged 15-24 years, have the highest rates of Sexually Transmissible Infections (STIs) in NSW with over 12,000 Chlamydia notifications last year.

As a partner for Youth Week 2015, running from 10-19 April, NSW Health is helping to increase the awareness of sexual health and STIs for young people and improve access to local sexual health services.

South Eastern Sydney Local Health District will be supporting a range of events and activities promoting sexual health messages to young people throughout local government areas within South Eastern Sydney.

These include:

- **Screen for a Screen** - Chlamydia testing during an outdoor screening of NRL South Sydney Rabbitohs Vs North Queensland Cowboys – in collaboration with Youth off the Streets. Monday, 13 April from 5.00pm to 9.00pm Coral Sea Park, Maroubra.
- **Youth Week @UNSW** - Sexual health information stall with giveaways. Tuesday, 14 April from 11.00am, The Quad, UNSW Campus, Kensington.

Dr Anna McNulty, Director of Sydney Sexual Health Centre and Satellite Sexual Health Clinic at WAYS (Waverley Action for Youth Services) in Bondi Junction, said sexual health is an essential but sometimes overlooked part of being a healthy young person.

“Each year, we are seeing increased STI rates among young people, particularly for Chlamydia, which saw a 10 per cent increase in 2014 compared to 2013 in NSW,” Dr McNulty said.

“Youth Week provides an opportunity to focus and remind young people about their sexual health, why it’s important and where they can receive confidential, free advice and STI testing locally.”

For more information on sexual health services across South Eastern Sydney, contact the Sexual Health Info Link on: 1800 451 624, or visit the Play Safe website for sexual health information and the opportunity to email Nurse Nettie for prompt, confidential sexual health advice. www.playsafe.health.nsw.gov.au

South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
Media contact: Poppy Diamantis 02 9382 8398 or 0411 730 842