



St George Hospital and Community Health Services

29 March, 2017

Harmony Day celebrated across SESLHD



In celebration of Harmony Day on 21 March, major events were held across the district showcasing the key theme “we belong” whilst raising awareness of the services available to support our communities.

Vivianne Challita-Ajaka, Manager, Diversity & Aboriginal Health, St George & Sutherland Hospitals, said Harmony Day was an important event in SESLHD, due to the district's cultural and linguistic diversity.

“Harmony Day provides an opportunity to celebrate and cultivate an ongoing sense of inclusiveness and respect,” Vivianne said.

St George and Sutherland hospitals celebrated by holding hospital tours for the public, a



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performance by a local children's choir and the introduction of culturally diverse cuisine.

"Recent data suggests that within the St George area we have a growing number of Latin American young mothers. In addition to our usual celebrations, we chose to recognise this through a Latin American harp performance and free henna painting," Vivianne said.

Sydney/Sydney Eye held an in service meeting, focusing on meeting the health care needs of refugees.

The forum aimed to enhance understanding of the refugee experience, its impact on health, barriers to accessing health care, and the development of practical strategies for health care provision.

In line with Harmony Day, the multicultural health team at St George and Sutherland hospitals is launching the health literacy campaign "teach-back".

Xiaomeng Chen, Multicultural Health Officer, St George Hospital said: "The new program aims to ensure a consistent dialogue with patients that is sensitive to their cultural needs. The program is being rolled out across St George and Sutherland hospitals and all employees are encouraged to partake."