

Monday, 15 October 2012

## **ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN COMMEMORATES FIRST ANNUAL PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS REMEMBRANCE DAY IN NSW WITH SERVICE OF HOPE**

In October 1988, the United States of America proclaimed 15 October as the national Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day to recognise the loss so many parents experience across the world, and a day where the community could better understand their pain and learn how to reach out to those grieving following the loss of a baby.

Many countries, including Australia, have since followed, marking International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day each year on 15 October.

This year will be the first year New South Wales acknowledges and commemorates International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day as an annual event to acknowledge and provide support and resources to parents and families who have lost children due to miscarriage, still births, birth defects, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other causes.

The Royal Hospital for Women (RHW) - NSW's only specialist women's hospital - together with other supporting organisations as: Miracle Babies, Pillars of Strength and SIDS and Kids NSW provide therapeutic support, comfort and assistance to parents and families who bear tremendous shock, grief and sadness from pregnancy and infant loss.

RHW's Service of Hope at Prince Henry Centre on Monday, 22 October will mark the first annual Pregnancy and Infant Loss Day in NSW and offer comfort to parents and families who have lost a baby.

Parents and families are also invited to bring an artwork to display in the RHW's Prayer Room throughout October to acknowledge Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day.

**What:** Service of Hope for first annual Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day in NSW

**When:** Monday, 22 October 2012 from 6.00pm to 7.30pm

**Where:** Prince Henry Centre, 2 Coast Hospital Road, Little Bay

**RSVP and further information:** RSVP by Thursday, 18 October, Royal Hospital for Women, Social Work Department: 02 9382 6670.