Healthrcare

Healthicare

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MEDIA RELEASE

Launching Our New State-of-the-Art Neighbourhood Health Hub

Healthicare, a new not-for-profit health organisation, is pleased to announce the opening of a state-of the art Neighbourhood Health Hub located at the Blacktown Exercise Sport and Technology hub (BEST).

Healthicare's inaugural Clinic Director, Dr Jaspreet Saini, stated, "As someone who's lived in Blacktown for more than 30 years, I understand the struggles we face in dealing with the health care system. That's why I'm thrilled about **Healthi**care, our new health care initiative right here in Western Sydney. It's not just about doctors and treatments; our collaborative neighbourhood-based model of care and cutting-edge digital technologies enable us to provide whole-person care that addresses the diverse needs and aspirations of our community. It's a heartfelt initiative led by a team intimately connected to the fabric of Western Sydney - individuals who have walked its streets and shared its stories for decades. We are fuelled by excitement, ready to stand hand in hand with other health care providers, forging a collaborative journey towards a healthier and brighter future for everyone."

The opening of **Healthi**care promises a new future for primary care, with links to social, education, disability, housing and other services. This wraparound approach provides health care providers and their patients with access to a multidisciplinary team, such as general practitioners, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, allied health, such as social workers and psychologists, as well as pharmacists and patient advocates. This highly-skilled team will be supported by state-of-the-art technology to measure impact, and professional development opportunities designed to encourage new clinical talent into the region.

Ray Messom, WentWest CEO stated, "WentWest's partnership with **Healthi**care is like no other. After working together for the last 3 years to design the model from the ground up WentWest is excited about the future of primary care in the region and what Healthicare can do to support surrounding general practices, practitioners and integrate the system around the person. The community, and the people that care for community, have been waiting too long for an integrated approach to health and social care but today marks a significant milestone on the way to solving that problem together."

This new hub will directly support up to 8,000 people a year but also indirectly support a neighbourhood population of more than 100,000 people. By increasing the health and

wellbeing of the community at a population level, we hope to reduce the impact on hospitals and acute services. We are planning for a healthy future."

"Having worked as a GP in Western Sydney for over 28 years, I've seen the increasing need for patient-centred, multi-agency, team-care approaches to health. With one of the most diverse populations in NSW and some of the lowest socio-economic areas, we have a duty as health professionals to ensure that we are providing our community with access to holistic and effective health care," stated Dr Kean-Seng Lim, Mt Druitt Medical Practitioners Association (MDMPA) President.

"**Healthi**care is the general practice of the future, not just for its patients, but also for the opportunities it presents to the primary care workforce, and Mt Druitt Medical Practitioners Association is proud to be part of this journey "

By partnering with MDMPA, Blacktown City Council, community organisations, local schools, WentWest, and BEST partners, **Healthi**care will build a healthier future for Western Sydney.

For more information, visit <u>healthicare.org.au</u>