



Tracey Wright-Tawha, Chief Executive of provider Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu

## Māori leading the way in Bowel Screening

Māori residents are participating in the Southern DHB's National Bowel Screening Programme in higher numbers than other locals, with Māori participation rates equaling or exceeding overall participation every month since the programme began in April 2018.

"We believe the Southern DHB's National Bowel Screening Programme has the highest indigenous participation of any national bowel screening programme in the world," says Programme Manager, Emma Bell. "It's wonderful that so many Māori are taking part and being proactive about their bowel health."

As at the end of April 2019, the overall Southern participation rate was 72%, above the national average of 62% and the target of 60%. Māori participation in

the South is also 72%, sitting 16% higher than the national average of 56%.

"The strong partnerships forged between the Southern bowel screening programme and community-based Māori health providers have played a large part in helping to achieve this outcome," says Emma Bell.

Chief Executive of provider Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu, Tracey Wright-Tawha, says it has been a pleasure to partner in this collaborative approach to raising awareness of bowel screening.

"Whānau is everything, and in sharing the key messages – be it over a cuppa, as part of an event, with a giggle or a shared tear – we can engage whānau to complete the test, we can make a difference, and we can save lives."



Newly appointed CLLN Chair Helen Telford

## Central Lakes Locality Network explained

The Central Lakes Locality Network (CLLN) is an advisory group created to support local health issues and make recommendations to the Southern Alliance Leadership Team.

CLLN members are local residents including patients and healthcare consumers, general practitioners and rural hospital clinicians, a general practice nurse and a health promotion advisor.

Newly appointed Chair, Helen Telford, is a qualified social worker with extensive experience in organisational transformation and project management. She says:

"I believe it's important local people are involved. I am passionate about the health sector and this position provides opportunity to contribute and support the health system from a different perspective."

The advisory network will work closely with Southern DHB and WellSouth Primary Health Network, to ensure health services and facilities match the current and future health care needs of patients and consumers in Queenstown, Wanaka and the Central Otago area.

The group met in late July to kick start a programme of work focused on better distribution and integration of services.

The group are considering a range of local issues, including:

- Distribution of Maternity and Community services in our area
- Patient transport and technology's impact on remote locations
- Better ways of working across the whole area for improved access to health and mental health services



Dunedin Short Term Loan Equipment storeman, James Bryan

## Call for return of loan equipment no longer used

Each year Southern DHB's Short Term Loan Equipment stores issue approximately 20,000 equipment items. Patients that have received assistive equipment they no longer use are being asked to return it, free of charge with no questions asked.

The equipment may include items such as a raised toilet frames, shower stools, wheelchairs, cushions, bed levers, walking frames, walking sticks and crutches.

### Please return equipment to:

#### Wakari Hospital Short Term Loan Rehab Equipment Store

Enter the Wakari Hospital grounds through the back entrance off Helensburgh Road. Turn hard left just inside the entrance way. Follow this road about 50 metres.

#### Southland Hospital Short Term Loan Equipment Store, Invercargill

Enter through Gate 1 in Elles Road, then turn first right. Follow the road around to the front of the buildings ahead of you, turning left to arrive at the front entrance to the equipment store.

#### Lakes Hospital, Frankton, Queenstown

Return to the front reception desk of the main hospital building.

#### Gore Hospital

Return to the loading dock adjacent to the car park. It is marked "Equipment Returns."

Should you have absolutely nobody who can assist with the return of equipment please call 03 476 9431 (Dunedin) or 03 214 8922 (Southland, Lakes and Gore)

# Award winning simulation lab design set to become reality

The Southern Innovation Challenge is an annual competition that encourages Southern DHB staff to bring their ideas to life, and that is exactly what has happened for Dunedin Hospital Registrar, Sam Shaw.

Working with the Otago Simulation Interest Group, Sam entered with a goal to develop the first clinical simulation lab embedded inside the hospital.

After winning last year's Patient Priority Award, Mr Shaw's winning concept has now become a reality.

On August 30 the ED seminar room on Dunedin Hospital's ground floor will be officially opened as a multifunction venue with a fit-for-purpose simulation training lab.

The meeting room now has a single bed space that resembles a true-to-life clinical environment.

**“It's great to have this located in the middle of the hospital. It's very convenient for regular staff training”**

says Mr Shaw.

“Reality is baked into it. Everything is in the right place. We have oxygen outlets, suction, medication spaces, a place to hang fluids and drugs, and a patient monitor. It replicates a clinical ward or an emergency department resuscitation bay”

“The more you can improve the authenticity of the simulation, the easier staff can buy into the clinical scenario, and the better they translate learning points into clinical practice.”

Simulation training is a proven educational tool for advancing skills and improving patient outcomes, says Otago Clinical Skill Laboratories Co-Director, Dr Ohad Dar.

“Simulation-based training should be just part of our normal clinical practice. It prepares front-line staff and students to train for time-critical clinical events. It's also good for developing effective communication skills, which can enhance a team's performance. I think an additional by-product of simulation is the reinforcement of the hospital's culture of respect and developing collaboration between people.”

Mr Shaw is looking forward to the Simulation Lab getting up and running, which is already being lined up for heavy use.

**“There's a growing number of facilitators in the hospital who are trained in simulation delivery. That includes physiotherapists, nurses, doctors, and multidisciplinary groups. It's pushing forward momentum for simulation training in the hospital, which is a growing trend”**



Dunedin Hospital Registrar Sam Shaw and Otago Clinical Skill Laboratories Co-Director, Dr Ohad Dar in the new simulation lab

## Southern DHB celebrates World Breastfeeding Week

Southern DHB continued to be strong advocates of breastfeeding as part of World Breastfeeding Week from 1-7 August.

“The aim of our celebration in Southland and Otago is to raise awareness about the importance of breastfeeding, to support mothers to breastfeed and to normalise breastfeeding in public spaces,” says Southern DHB Health Promotion Advisor, Christine Qusted.

Dunedin Registered District Nurse Lauren Shea returned to work in April this year and says she felt well supported by her Charge Nurse and wider team to continue breastfeeding her now one year-old daughter, Pippa, at the Wakari Hospital Early Childhood Centre.

“Being able to see my girl and breastfeed during the day has helped us both with the transition, especially into childcare, with more ease. I'm so grateful.”

## No day the same for DHB Security Officer

A day in the life of a security officer is one of constant change and comes with its fair share of challenges, but Southern DHB Security Officer Reece Hiom wouldn't have it any other way.

**“I love the diversity of the job. Every day is different in our role. Some days are more challenging than others, every incident is unique and we have to adapt to keep ahead of the situation”**

Some of the many roles Southern DHB Security Officers have include medication and cash escorts, performing site patrols on the hospital grounds and monitoring CCTV footage. They are also present in the Emergency Department, Emergency Psychiatric Services and on the wards if conflict arises.

“Our primary role is as first responders for the safety of staff, patients and visitors, and to ensure the hospital is a safe environment.”



Southern DHB Security Officer Reece Hiom

## Commissioner's Update

Kathy Grant



We have nearly made our way through winter, which is invariably a time of year that tests our health, and our health system. This year, which while milder than many, has been no exception.

We have seen very busy emergency departments, GP clinics, district nursing teams and more, all working hard to help our communities stay well and assist them when they are not.

I would like to take a moment to thank all of our communities for their enormous efforts at this time of year. And thank you also to the unsung heroes whose contributions are often unnoticed, but essential – these are our volunteers, families, neighbours and friends, who every day are checking in on our vulnerable people, and supporting them in many different ways.

The way in which Southern DHB is supported by the community is humbling, and I am reminded of this as we again launch the Countdown Kids Appeal. Over the past 12 years, this appeal has raised some \$2 million for our children's services, and supported the purchase of additional equipment such as electric beds, infant ventilators, wheelchairs for children in the community and much more.

We are grateful to all the Countdown staff and friends who take part in the fundraising, and to everyone who donates - you are making a difference for our children and we thank you.

Supporting our people to be cared for close to their own communities remains a priority for the DHB. This is of particular importance in the Southern district, given our size.

It's the reason we are continuing to reshape health services in the district through our Primary and Community Care Strategy and Action Plan. This month we met another important milestone with the first meeting of a new Central Lakes Locality Network.

You can read more about this group and their goals in this issue of Better Health and we thank those appointed to the Locality Network for their role in supporting the development of health services in this fast-growing part of the district.



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