



**THE HON TANYA PLIBERSEK MP
Minister for Health**

MEDIA RELEASE

8 May 2012

New and Improved Health Facilities for Regional Australians

Australian patients will benefit from a \$475 million investment in new and upgraded health facilities in regional Australia, which delivers fully on the Government's \$1.8 billion commitment to a regional priority round for the Health and Hospitals Fund.

As part of the 2012-13 Budget, the Gillard Government is funding 76 projects to give greater access to health services for patients living in rural, regional and remote communities.

Health Minister Tanya Plibersek said the \$475 million was being directed through the Government's Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF) and builds on the \$1.3 billion allocated to 63 regional health projects in last year's Budget. This brings total HHF investments in improving health facilities to \$5 billion.

"The Gillard Government is providing extra health care services and new and upgraded facilities to Australian patients," Ms Plibersek said.

"We want Australians to have the health care they need, when and where they need it.

"As well as giving patients greater access to hospital services in the bush, this investment in infrastructure will help to create jobs and strengthen local economies."

Ms Plibersek said the approval of projects was based on independent assessment of tangible benefits to patients living outside major cities.

"Patients will benefit from the redevelopment and continuation of hospitals and multi-purpose services in regional centres, including in Broken Hill, Bundaberg, Griffith, Hillston, Kempsey, Lismore, Peak Hill and Warracknabeal.

"New and upgraded facilities to support additional dental services will benefit patients in areas such as Cranbrook, Murray Bridge, Narrogin, the Pilbara and Kimberley regions, and Yamba."

Funding through the HHF is delivered in partnership with a wide range of organisations that are experienced in delivering services in the bush.

As a leading health provider in remote Australia, the Royal Flying Doctor Service will receive additional funding for an aircraft hanger and patient transfer facility, mobile oral health facilities and staff accommodation.

Ms Plibersek said the Government will also be increasing the numbers of doctors, nurses and other health professionals who can be trained in areas including Broken Hill, Ulverstone and Katherine.

“This will give training health professionals an opportunity to experience the benefits of living and building a career in the rural health sector.

“To attract, train and retain permanent health professionals in the bush, accommodation for students and health professionals including locums, will also be built and improved in locations such as Ballarat, South Gippsland, Halls Creek, Mt Isa, Thursday Island, Charleville and Bairnsdale.”

Spending under the HHF is allocated to areas of greatest need and is designed to prepare communities for increased demand in health services as a result of the ageing population and to address the rising burden of chronic disease. All applications for funding are assessed by the independent HHF Advisory Board.

For all media inquiries, please contact the Minister's Office on 02 6277 7220

Attachment A – Health and Hospitals Fund – Regional Priority Round

NEW SOUTH WALES

Applicant Organisation	Project	Applicant (GOVT/ NGO)	Location	HHF Funding (\$m)
NSW Ministry of Health	Lismore Base Hospital Redevelopment	GOVT	Lismore	60.250
NSW Ministry of Health	Kempsey District Hospital Redevelopment Stage 1	GOVT	Kempsey	40.000
Southern General Practice Network	South East NSW Health Collaborative Development	NGO	Moruya, Bega and Cooma	31.468
Griffith City Council	Griffith Community Private Hospital Development	NGO	Griffith	11.388
Charles Sturt University	Interprofessional Health and Wellness Precinct Development Stage 3	NGO	Bathurst	6.000
NSW Ministry of Health	Hillston Multipurpose Service Redevelopment	GOVT	Hillston	6.000
NSW Ministry of Health	Peak Hill Multipurpose Service Redevelopment	GOVT	Peak Hill	6.000
University of Sydney	Health Care Service Development	NGO	Broken Hill	4.709
NSW Ministry of Health	Community Health Centre Development	GOVT	Yamba	4.300
Orange Aboriginal Health Service Inc	Orange Aboriginal Health Service Redevelopment	NGO	Orange	3.983
St. Vincents Private Hospital	St Vincents Private Hospital Surgical Service Expansion	NGO	Lismore	2.532
Community Healthcare Trustees Pty Ltd	Kurri Kurri Community Health Care Centre Expansion	NGO	Kurri Kurri	1.990
Port Macquarie Private Hospital	Port Macquarie Private Hospital Rehabilitation Service Expansion	NGO	Port Macquarie	1.500
Dudley Private Hospital	Dudley Private Hospital Hydrotherapy Pool Development	NGO	Orange	1.445
Hunter New England Area Health Service	Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital Nuclear Medicine Department Upgrade	GOVT	Tamworth	1.100
Mudgee Psychology	Mudgee Allied and Mental Health Centre Expansion	NGO	Mudgee	0.642

VICTORIA

Applicant Organisation	Project	Applicant (GOVT/ NGO)	Location	HHF Funding (\$m)
Sunraysia Community Health Services Ltd	Community Health Services Redevelopment	NGO	Mildura	15.261
Rural Northwest Health	Warracknabeal Campus Redevelopment Stage 2	GOVT	Warracknabeal	8.800
Florey Neuroscience Institutes	VicStroke (Telemedicine Stroke Care for Regional Victorian Hospitals)	NGO	Melbourne	7.298
Latrobe Community Health Service	Moe Interprofessional Community Health Centre Redevelopment	NGO	Moe	5.947
Bendigo & District Aboriginal Co-operative	Bendigo Aboriginal Health Services Development	NGO	Bendigo	5.700
Gisborne & District Community Health & Hospital Board Inc. trading as Macedon Ranges Health	Integrated Primary Health Care Expansion	GOVT	Gisborne	4.950
Ovens and King Community Health Services	Integrated Primary Care Centre Redevelopment	NGO	Wangaratta	4.420
Numurkah District Health Service	Multi-disciplinary Community Health Centre Development	GOVT	Numurkah	4.032
Gateway Community Health	Health Clinic Redevelopment	NGO	Wodonga	3.921
Gippsland Southern Health Service	Leongatha Integrated Primary Care Centre Development	GOVT	Leongatha	3.664
Kyabram and District Health Service	Health and Wellbeing Centre Expansion	GOVT	Kyabram	3.480
Ballan District Health and Care Services	Ballan Primary Care Centre Expansion	NGO	Ballan	3.333
Bellarine Community Health Ltd	Queenscliff Community Health Centre Redevelopment	NGO	Point Lonsdale	3.004
Colac Otway Shire	Bluewater Fitness Centre Hydrotherapy Pool Development	NGO	Colac	2.800
La Trobe University	Student Placement Accommodation	NGO	Ballarat	2.600
Heathcote Health	Heathcote GP Primary Care Clinic Expansion	GOVT	Heathcote	2.403
Bairnsdale Regional Health Service	Jacaranda House Redevelopment	GOVT	Bairnsdale	2.000
Ballarat District Nursing and Healthcare Inc	Health Care Service Expansion	NGO	Ballarat	1.663

Mansfield District Hospital	Co-location of Primary Health Care Services	GOVT	Mansfield	1.356
Mitchell Community Health Service Ltd	Purchase of Land for Wallan Integrated Primary Health Care Centre	NGO	Wallan	1.000
Mitchell Community Health Service Ltd.	Development of e-Health Capacity at the new Kinglake Ranges Health Centre	NGO	Kinglake Ranges	0.205

QUEENSLAND

Applicant Organisation	Project	Applicant (GOVT/ NGO)	Location	HHF Funding (\$m)
Queensland Health	E-Health to Support Integrated Care in Regional Queensland	GOVT	Weipa, Cooktown, Bamaga, Thursday Island, Atherton, Mareeba and Mossman	34.950
Queensland Health	Staff Accommodation for the Chronic Disease Centre's Health Care Professionals	GOVT	Thursday Island	12.745
Apunipima Cape York Health Council (ACYHC)	Development of Primary Health Care Services	NGO	Hopevale, Kowanyama, Aurukun, Coen and Pormpuraaw	11.727
Queensland Health	Remote Staff Accommodation for Health Care Professionals	GOVT	Mount Isa	10.900
Mater Health Services North Queensland	Expansion of Operating Theatre Services at Townsville Mater Private Hospital	NGO	Townsville	10.078
MRMC Building Consortium Pty Ltd	Development of a Primary Health Care Centre and Training Facility	NGO	Toowoomba	7.000
Oceania Oncology Sunshine Coast Pty Ltd	Integrated Cancer Care Centre Expansion	NGO	Bundaberg	5.635
Friendly Society Private Hospital (Bundaberg Friendly Society Medical Institute Ltd)	Friendly Society Private Hospital Cardiac Care Services Expansion	NGO	Bundaberg	5.351
Yulu-Burri-Ba Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health	Community Health Centre Redevelopment	NGO	Dunwich	3.175
Hillcrest Rockhampton Private Hospital	Hillcrest Rockhampton Private Hospital Mental Health Unit Expansion	NGO	Rockhampton	2.100
Steledede Pty Ltd	Expansion of Allied, Mental, Dental and Tele-health Services	NGO	Cranbrook	2.000

Mackay Health Service District, Queensland Health	Proserpine Hospital Acute and Primary Care Clinic Expansion	GOVT	Proserpine	1.492
Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Queensland Section)	Remote Staff Accommodation for Health Care Professionals	NGO	Charleville	1.400
Queensland Health	Bowen Hospital Expansion	GOVT	Bowen	1.228
Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Queensland Section)	Roma Aircraft Hangar and Patient Transfer Facility Development	NGO	Roma	1.209
Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Queensland Section)	Establishment of an Oral Health Clinic Mobile Van	NGO	Charleville	1.128
Queensland Health	Charters Towers Primary Health Care Clinic Redevelopment	GOVT	Charters Towers	0.400

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Applicant Organisation	Project	Applicant (GOVT/ NGO)	Location	HHF Funding (\$m)
Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS)	Primary Health Care Hub and Staff Accommodation Development	NGO	Newman	12.098
WA Department of Health	Redevelopment of Pathology Laboratories	GOVT	Bunbury, Narrogin and Collie	6.980
Yura Yungi Medical Service	Aboriginal Medical Centre Redevelopment	NGO	Halls Creek	4.807
Ngaanyatjarra Health Service (Aboriginal Corporation ICN 557)	Remote Primary Health Care Clinic, Medical Training and Staff Accommodation Development	NGO	Warburton, Warakurna and Wanarn	3.571
Dental Health Services	Narrogin General Dental Clinic Development	GOVT	Narrogin	2.800
Yura Yungi Medical Service	Aboriginal Medical Service Staff Accommodation Redevelopment	NGO	Halls Creek	2.776
WA Department of Health	Point of Care Network for Rural and Remote Regions of Western Australia	GOVT	Regional Western Australia	0.775
Yura Yungi Medical Service	Ringer Soak Community Clinic Redevelopment	NGO	Halls Creek	0.603
Silver Chain Nursing Association (Incorporated)	Hyden Health Centre Redevelopment	NGO	Hyden	0.544
Royal Flying Doctor Service	Establishment of a Remote Area Mobile Dental Unit	NGO	Pilbara and Kimberley Regions	0.440

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Applicant Organisation	Project Outline	Applicant (GOVT/ NGO)	Location	HHF Funding (\$m)
South Australian Department of Health	South Coast Primary Health Care Precinct Development Stage 1	GOVT	Victor Harbor	10.000
South Australian Department of Health	Murray Bridge Community Dental Clinic Development	GOVT	Murray Bridge	3.798
Calvary Rehabilitation Hospital	Calvary Regional Outreach Telehealth Centre Redevelopment	NGO	Port Augusta	0.721
District Council of Tumby Bay	Tumby Bay Health Services Redevelopment	NGO	Tumby Bay	0.604
Cummins Medical Centre	Coffin Bay Wellness Clinic Development	NGO	Coffin Bay	0.417
TASMANIA				
Applicant Organisation	Project	Applicant (GOVT/ NGO)	Location	HHF Funding (\$m)
St Giles Society Inc	Redevelopment of Paediatric Allied Health and Disability Services and Integrated e-Health Infrastructure	NGO	Newstead	6.800
University of Tasmania	Mount St. Vincent Professional Development Centre	NGO	Ulverstone	1.279
NORTHERN TERRITORY				
Applicant Organisation	Project	Applicant (GOVT/ NGO)	Location	HHF Funding (\$m)
Northern Territory Department of Health	Redevelopment of Paediatric Wards at Royal Darwin Hospital	GOVT	Darwin	11.900
NT Cardiac Pty Ltd.	Development of a State Wide Integrated Cardiac Network Service	NGO	Darwin	6.130
NT Department of Health and Families	Multi-disciplinary Teaching and Training Facility, Alice Springs Hospital	GOVT	Alice Springs	5.185
Katherine Centre of Excellence in Health Knowledge Inc.	Clinical Training Academic Health Centre Development	NGO	Katherine	2.450
Nganampa Health Council	Staff Accommodation Redevelopment and Pipalyatjara Community Clinic Upgrade	NGO	Pipalyatjara and Mimili in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands (APY) in far Northwest of South Australia.	0.169