



The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW SECURES YAMBA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Yamba will soon be home to a brand new community health centre, following the NSW Government's success in gaining important funding under the Commonwealth Government's Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF), the Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, and the Member for Clarence, Chris Gulaptis, announced today.

Minister Skinner and Mr Gulaptis announced the proposal in October last year, and today the Federal Government revealed it would contribute \$4.3m for the important facility, to which the NSW Government will contribute \$1.2m.

Mrs Skinner and Mr Gulaptis made the announcement with the Federal Minister for Health, Tanya Plibersek, in Yamba today.

Mrs Skinner said it was a proud day for the community who has been actively advocating to all levels of government for some years.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals have been calling for the establishment of a community health centre at Yamba since 2003," Mrs Skinner said

"This project has the support of local doctors, nurses, health professionals and the Northern NSW Local Health District Board - I am pleased both the State and Federal Governments have been able to provide this important funding to allow the project to get off the ground," she said.

The Community Health Centre will include consultation spaces and treatment capacity for a range of in-centre and visiting clinicians.

The centre will also feature a broad range of primary, community and specialist community-based health services to address individual and population health issues at an early stage, thereby giving the best possible opportunity to take preventive and early action and potentially avoiding more serious conditions developing.

The Member for Clarence, Chris Gulaptis, said the support for a community health centre has been extensive and extremely positive.

"The Yamba and surrounding areas are experiencing significant population growth, with over 40 per cent of the population aged over 55," Mr Gulaptis said.

“Improved access to aged care services, and improved access to rehabilitation and post-surgery care, such as increased physiotherapy and occupational therapy, will be of great benefit to our community,” he said.