



MEDIA RELEASE

5 May 2004

New antenatal clinic goes to the people

A new antenatal clinic has opened in Macquarie Fields housing estate so that pregnant women will not need to travel to Campbelltown Hospital for their regular check-ups and care.

The midwife in charge of the clinic, Geesje McGuire said that many women in the area were extremely isolated. "Often they don't have a car and to get to Campbelltown by public transport is not easy. It takes a long time and, if they have other children, its hard for them to organise."

As a result, many women have been taking unnecessary health risks for themselves and their unborn child by only going to Campbelltown Hospital once or twice close to the time their baby is due.

"We are fully equipped at Macquarie Fields to carry out all the antenatal services available at Campbelltown Hospital including blood pressure checks, organising ultrasounds, blood tests and providing information and advice on breastfeeding and post natal care."

As a welcoming event, staff are holding a Sausage Sizzle for local residents and others to explain and promote their services:

Date: Thursday 6 May
Time: 10am – 12 noon
Place: Macquarie Antenatal Clinic (located in Salvation Army building),
Peppermint Crescent,
Macquarie Fields.

**Issued by South Western Sydney Area Health Service Public Affairs
9828 6951 or 9828 5700.**