



23 June 2015

## **Hawkesbury District Health Service to transfer to SJGHC**

St John of God Health Care (SJGHC), one of Australia's leading health care providers, has reached an agreement with Catholic Healthcare to transfer ownership and management of Hawkesbury District Health Service (HDHS) at Windsor, NSW, to SJGHC and extend its health care service offering in NSW.

The transfer is subject to regulatory approvals.

HDHS is a public-private partnership with NSW Health consisting of 125 inpatient beds, emergency department and community health services, operating public patient services. HDHS also operates private patient services.

Settlement is expected to take place within three to four months.

Making the announcement SJGHC Group CEO Dr Michael Stanford said that as a large and experienced hospital operator already operating in the region and with experience in operating public health contracts, SJGHC was well-placed to take over the service.

"SJGHC is already an integral part of the Hawkesbury region through our St John of God Richmond Hospital, a private psychiatric hospital.

"We have been managing large acute hospitals in Australia for more than 120 years with a significant network. This transfer provides opportunities for service development between the acute services at HDHS and our NSW psychiatric hospitals and as a large-scale operator we can offer HDHS staff and the local community significant benefits."

Catholic Healthcare Chair of Trustee Professor Jack Flanagan said CHL made the decision to transfer ownership because it felt it was the appropriate time to position HDHS within a hospital group with wider interest and expertise in hospitals.

"This comes at a time when HDHS is ready for its next expansion to respond to community growth and need, and to partner with the Local Health District in coming years on exciting area wide health initiatives to benefit the extended community.

"As a leading health and hospital group across Australia, SJGHC is perfectly placed to continue to develop HDHS to its full potential," Professor Flanagan said.

SJGHC intends to invest in HDHS to provide the people of Hawkesbury with access to an expanded range of high quality health services.

# MEDIA RELEASE



**ST JOHN OF GOD**  
Health Care

“SJGHC has a track record of investing in growing facilities and services to better meet community need and looks forward very much to working with the Local Health District to explore and finalise plans for the growth of public and private services at HDHS,” Dr Stanford said.

SJGHC will also continue to partner with the University of Notre Dame (UND) which already has a presence at HDHS and will continue to operate HDHS as a strong teaching hospital.

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## **About SJGHC**

SJGHC is one of Australia’s largest non-government hospital operators and is Australia’s largest Catholic hospital operator.

It has been operating for more than 120 years and employs more than 11,000 caregivers across Australia, New Zealand and the wider Asia-Pacific region.

It operates 19 facilities comprising more than 2,600 beds and also provides pathology, home nursing and disability services throughout Australia and New Zealand. HDHS will bring the number of facilities it operates to 20.

In 2012, SJGHC entered a 23-year public private partnership with the State Government of Western Australia to build and operate a large 307-bed public hospital in Perth’s growing north east corridor and a co-located 60-bed private hospital. It will open on 24 November 2015.

It also operates a number of other government contracts.

It has extensive social outreach programs nationally and in the near Asia Pacific region, and in the current financial year has administered programs worth around \$60 million.

It currently has capital developments worth \$642 million underway.

SJGHC’s roots in New South Wales go back to 1916 when the Sisters of St John of God founded Goulburn Hospital.



For the last eight years, SJGHC has operated two large and highly-regarded psychiatric hospitals in NSW providing comprehensive mental health services for inpatient and outpatients, at Burwood and Richmond.

In Sydney it also provides free perinatal mental health services through its Raphael Centre in Blacktown as well as accommodation services to people suffering mental health disorders, who otherwise might be homeless, through its Casa Venegas community support homes in Sydney's inner west.

### **About Catholic Healthcare and HDHS**

Catholic Healthcare is a leading provider of aged care services, operating over 40 residential aged care services and ten retirement communities and provides community services to over 4,000 clients throughout NSW and south east Queensland.

Catholic Healthcare promotes life in all its fullness by providing aged, health and community services inspired by the Catholic tradition.

Celebrating its 21st year in July, Catholic Healthcare has grown from a small team with a vision into the largest Catholic provider of aged and community services in NSW.

HDHS is a public-private partnership between Catholic Healthcare and NSW Health consisting of 125 inpatient beds, emergency department and community health services, operating public patient services under contract to NSW Health, and private patient services. Catholic Healthcare has been successfully operating HDHS for the past 19 years.

HDHS provides a comprehensive suite of health promotion, early intervention, treatment and palliation services for approximately 63,000 residents of the area and neighbouring north-west corridor.