



OUTBACK HORIZONS



Newsletter of the Broken Hill University Department of Rural Health

Volume 5, Issue 2

WINTER 2009

In this issue:

- BH ECPP Launch
- What's On
- Lighthouse Schools Career Project Launch
- Japanese Nurse Academics visit



BH UDRH Extended Clinical Placement Program Launch

On June 29 the BH UDRH launched the new Broken Hill Extended Clinical Placement Program (BHECPP) with a Civic Reception at the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery. Over 200 people were invited to the program's launch, which was attended by the NSW Governor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, who officiated at the launch. Academics from the University of Sydney, Wollongong, Adelaide and various representatives from the RFDS, GWAHS, Maari Ma, local GPs, dentists and other members of the community also attended.

The BHECPP is directed at 3rd and 4th year medical students and its purpose is to encourage young doctors to work in the bush via a 6 -12 month rural placement. The BHECPP offers;

- Integrated training in general practice and the hospital setting
- Hands on experience working along side local GPs
- The opportunity to work with hospital clinicians in ED, medicine and surgery
- The understanding of rural communities including cross-cultural issues and
- An understanding of the unique role of the Doctor in a rural community.

The program aims are to develop an integrated approach to high-quality medical education in a remote setting based on strong partnerships between participating universities (University of Wollongong, University of Adelaide and of course the University of Sydney), local clinicians, communities and students, which should ultimately contribute to resolving workforce issues in rural and remote regions of Australia.

The first group of 5 medical students in the program are still settling into the Broken Hill community while enjoying the experience of the longer placement. The BH UDRH wishes to thank all those involved who helped bring this exciting project to fruition - the benefits to the students and the community as a whole will be evident for years to come.

For more information about the BHECPP please contact **Dr David Garne**, BH UDRH Director Clinical Medicine, **Mrs Honor Beck**, BH UDRH Student Placement Services Manager or **Mrs Leah Daly**, BHECPP Project Coordinator on 08 8080 1200.

The NSW Governor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, officiated at the BHECPP launch held in the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery.



Contact us:

BH UDRH
Corrindah Court
Broken Hill Health Service
PO Box 457
BROKEN HILL NSW 2880
Tel: 08 8080 1200

What's On at the BH UDRH

A **Nursing Academy** will be held on Friday September 4, a **Medicine, Radiography and Pharmacy Academy** will be held on Monday September 14 and an **Allied Health Academy** will be on Thursday September 17. For more information on any of these academies, please contact Kathie Naden, Community Development Project Officer - Indigenous Education, on 08 8080 1245 or e-mail: KNaden@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au

www.drh.med.usyd.edu.au

Launch of the Schools Career Lighthouse Project

On June 23 the BH UDRH launched the new Schools Career Lighthouse Project for Broken Hill and the region. The official Launch included presentations from an Education Lighthouse representative, Mr Darryl Ward – Principal Broken Hill High School, Ms Debra Jones – BH UDRH Director Primary Health Care and Mrs Kathryn Naden – BHUDRH Community Development Project Officer (Indigenous Education).

Lighthouse schools are funded by the Australian Government to champion good practices in quality career education and trial new and innovative ways of implementing career education in schools. They show other secondary, primary, government and non-government schools how to make career education an integral part of every school's activities, not just an optional add-on to the formal curriculum.

The aim of the project will increase student awareness of nursing, allied health and medicine career opportunities that are available. By inspiring these career choices, it helps build a health workforce that is responsive to rural and remote health delivery and graduates are likely to return to rural and remote settings to practice.

The Project's partners are from 3 areas – Education (Broken Hill & Willyama High Schools, Menindee Central school, Alma, Railway Town, Burke Ward, Central, Morgan Street and Broken Hill North public schools), Health (GWAHS Remote Cluster, Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation and the Royal Flying Doctor Service) and Universities (University of Sydney and Southern Cross University).

For more information on the Lighthouse Schools Project please contact **Ms Debra Jones**, Director Primary Health Care, on 08 8080 1239 or 0427 483 984 or **Mrs Kathie Naden**, Community Development Project Officer – Indigenous Education on 08 8080 1245.



Representatives from Education Lighthouse, Broken Hill High School, the BH UDRH and students during the Launch.

Japanese Nurse Academics visit to Broken Hill



Elizabeth Martin (left), Mimi Niiro and Chinatsu Mizuno

On Tuesday 18th August the BH UDRH hosted a visit from 2 Japanese Nursing Academics, Mimi Niiro and Chinatsu Mizuno who gave a unique presentation on the delivery of health services in rural Japan. **Ms Elizabeth Martin**, a Mental Health Academic with the BH UDRH, coordinated the visit and met Mimi Niiro when visiting Japan and Canada last year after receiving a Fellowship from the Broken Hill Gallipoli Memorial Foundation.

Mimi Niiro is Senior Assistant Professor at School of Nursing, Sapporo City University. Mimi earned a Bachelor of Health Science from the University of Tokyo, and a Master of Nursing Science from Sapporo Medical University. Her research field is Occupational Mental Health Promotion and Community Mental Health Nursing. Currently, she is interested in Nurses' Mental Health Promotion within high-pressure/stressful working environments. She hopes to contribute to support/enhance Nurses' mental health and their 'spirit of caring' aspects, as both specialists and humans.

Chinatsu Mizuno is a lecturer at the School of Nursing, Faculty of Medical Technology, Tokyo Health Care University. Chinatsu received a Bachelor of Law from the Department of Law Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Shizuoka University and a Master of Nursing from the Graduate School of Medicine, Hamamatsu University School of Medicine. She is a member of the Japanese Ergonomics Society, The Japanese Academy of Midwifery and the Japanese Society of Women's Health. Her research interests are Ergonomics, the Parent-Child relationship and labour systems.

Ms Martin also organised a tour of local health service facilities for the visiting academics to assist them in understanding aspects of Australian rural health care delivery. Ms Martin said she is very pleased that her Fellowship and overseas trip has resulted in a return visit that has also strengthened linkages between the two universities.

To read more about the Sapporo City University go to the website: <http://www.scu.ac.jp/english/index.html>