

Media Release

3 July 2026

Take part in a Local Health Forum and help improve care for older people

For some older people, accessing the right healthcare and aged care support can be difficult, particularly when needs change or care is required from multiple services.

South Western Sydney Primary Health Network (SWSPHN) is holding a series of Local Health Forums to explore the barriers and enablers to older people accessing timely, appropriate and coordinated healthcare and aged care support.

Have you experienced difficulty accessing healthcare or aged care services for yourself or an older person you support?

The forums will be held in August and September at venues in Campbelltown, Bass Hill or Bowral.

Older people, carers and family members, health professionals, aged care workers, allied health professionals, service providers and community organisations are invited to share their experiences, identify gaps and contribute insights which can inform future planning and coordination of services across the region.

The forums will discuss topics including:

- finding information about aged care services and support
- accessing GPs, specialists, allied health and community services
- organising care and support at home
- moving between hospital, home care and residential aged care
- coordinating care across different services language, literacy, transport, cost, digital access and eligibility barriers
- programs, services and supports which are working well

The forums are not limited to people who are currently receiving aged care services.

This activity is supported by funding from the Australian Government through the PHN program.

South Western Sydney PHN is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting general practitioners, practice nurses and other primary health providers to deliver the best possible care for their patients. Our aim is to improve access to quality local healthcare for all residents living in the Bankstown, Fairfield, Liverpool, Campbelltown, Camden, Wollondilly and Wingecarribee LGAs. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, water and skies of South Western Sydney, the Darug, Dharawal and Gundungurra peoples, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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They are designed to explore the experiences of older people accessing healthcare and aged care support, as well as the experiences of families, carers and workers who help older people navigate these services.

SWSPHN Acting Chief Executive Officer Amy Prince said older people and their families could face significant challenges when navigating increasingly complex and sometimes fragmented systems, particularly when care needs changed unexpectedly or care involved multiple services. “Older people should be able to access the care and support they need to remain healthy, independent and connected to their community,” she said.

“It is vital that services are easy to find, understand and navigate, and that care is coordinated as an older person’s needs change.

“We need the help of older people, families, carers and those who work alongside them to understand the barriers they have faced, identify what is working well and develop practical solutions which make it easier for older people to receive the right support at the right time.”

Local Health Forums will be held across South Western Sydney for:

People who live or work in Campbelltown or Camden

Date: Wednesday, 12 August 2026

Time: 6pm arrival for a 6.30pm start, finishing at 8.30pm

Venue: Rydges Campbelltown, 15 Old Menangle Road, Campbelltown

[Register here](#)

People who live or work in Bankstown, Fairfield or Liverpool

Date: Tuesday, 8 September 2026

Time: 6pm arrival for a 6.30pm start, finishing at 8.30pm

Venue: Rydges Bankstown, Hume Highway, Bass Hill

[Register here](#)

People who live or work in Southern Highlands or Wollondilly

Date: Wednesday, 23 September 2026

Time: 6pm arrival for a 6.30pm start, finishing at 8.30pm

Venue: The Gibraltar Bowral, 7 Boronia Street, Bowral

[Register here](#)

The Local Health Forums are free to attend and a complimentary two-course dinner is provided.

Local Health Forums are held twice a year and focus on health topics important to people living in our community. Past forums have focused on topics including improving children’s health, pregnancy care, mental health, primary care workforce need and end-of-life planning.

Find more information: [Local health forum: Accessing health and wellbeing services for older people](#)

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