

TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT



Health
Western NSW
Local Health District



Family &
Community
Services

The Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service Limited (WAMS), together with the NSW Family & Community Services (FACS) and the Western NSW Local Health District (WNSWLHD) entered into a Tripartite Agreement to ensure appropriate support is provided to the children and young people in statutory Out-of-Home Care in relation to Health Management Plans determined by legislative and regulatory requirements.

The Agreement will be piloted in Walgett and is part of a larger project to improve FACS's engagement with Aboriginal governance and leadership groups, service providers and communities in the Western NSW District with the project expected to conclude in June 2018.

The Agreement will focus on Health Screening and Assessment Pathways for children and young people and will include Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children and children with a disability.

Representatives from the three agencies met in Walgett at 41 Wee Waa St - WAMS Shop Front on Tuesday, 20 October for the Official Signing.

Proceedings began with a 'Welcome to Country' performed by Dharriwaa Elder, Mrs Virginia Robinson, followed by Christine Corby, OAM, CEO of WAMS who welcomed all those attending, thanking them for travelling to Walgett for the occasion and outlining how the agreement had come into fruition.

The Community Programs Officer, Carolyn Duncan of FACS and facilitator of the event was invited to speak, describing how this service would benefit the people of Walgett who didn't have access to the support provided in the larger regional centres.





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Debrah Davis, the Associate Director of Integrated Primary Care and Partnerships for the WNSWLHD explained their role in the scheme and iterated the earlier comments regarding the benefit it would bring to the people of Walgett.

Jo Lawrence, District Director of FACS, concluded the speeches, thanking WAMS for initiating the proposal for a Tripartite Agreement.

A light lunch of quiche, sandwiches and fruit was served.

Many people travelled to witness the signing and included

Western NSW District - FACS: Jo Lawrence District Director
 Carolyn Duncan Community Programs Officer
 Lyall Gibbs Manager of Client Services FACS
 Gargi Ganguly Director - Business innovation & Reform
 Sharryn Wheeler Director Community Services

WNSWLHD” Debrah Davis Associate Director of Integrated Primary Care and Partnerships
 Stacy Whiley District Manager Child Protection Strategies
 Janis Downing Integrated Primary Care and Partnerships

Locals who showed their support were:
 Helen Cooney Principal St Joseph’s Catholic School
 Wendy Spencer Dharriwaa Elder’s Group representative
 Kevin Behm Manager Walgett Multi-Purpose Service

WAMS Directors and staff:

Bill Kennedy Chairperson
 Bert Gordon Vice Chairperson
 Mary Purse Secretary
 Iris Hall Director
 Christine Corby CEO
 Naomi Barrett Admin Team Leader
 Deborah Walford Administration Assistant

