

**GANNAWARRA MEDICAL WORKFORCE MEETS IN COHUNA**

Councils and Health services executives from across the Murray region all took part in a meeting in Cohuna aimed at supporting and increasing the GP workforce.

Representatives from the following local agencies attended: Cohuna District Hospital, Kerang District Health, Ochre Health, Northern District Community Health, Echuca Regional Health, Swan Hill District Health, Gannawarra Shire and Murray Plains Shire.

Expertise was provided by the Rural Doctors Association Victoria, the Rural Workforce Agency Victoria and Murray City Country Coast (MCCC) GP Training. The Murray Primary Health Network and Department of Health and Human Services were present and offered their commitment to supporting the intentions of the group.

The consensus from the group was a shared commitment to developing a contemporary model that will suit the needs of the next generation.

The group talked about the community's passion and the importance of having their involvement in the journey and of harnessing their support to help attract GPs to the area.

The next meeting will occur in February 2018 where an action plan featuring a recruitment strategy and communication plan will be further developed.

**Breaking news:**

**Since the meeting Northern District Community Health received great news! Dr's Lindsay and Dianne Sherriff will be providing their GP services to the community of Kerang from February to June 2018.**

Photo: Michael Delahunty and Kathy Day (CDH), Robert Jarman (KDH), Mandy Hutchinson (NDCH), Tom O'Reilly (GSC), Matt Jones (MPHN), Megan Cahill and Fatima Souki (RWAV), Leanne Dickinson (Cohuna Ochre Health), Dr Sue Harrison and Dr Megan Belot (RDAV), Cathy Ward (MCCC) Absent from photo: Andrew Kallaur (DHHS), Des Bilske (Murray River Shire), Ted Rayment and Gail Kenyon (SHDHS) Apologies were received from Barham District Health Services and Barham Ochre Health.

Date: 28 December 2017

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