

## **Barwon Division CEO Fiona Strang reaches 10 year Milestone**

The Barwon Division of General Practice is celebrating ten years under the strong and dynamic leadership of CEO Fiona Strang.

Medical Director Dr Grahame Deane praised Fiona's contribution to the Barwon Division in congratulating her on reaching this significant milestone.

"The Barwon Division started out with one office and three staff. Today there are three offices with over 20 staff and the organisation delivers over \$3 million of health care services to the community annually", he said.

"This growth is testament to Fiona's level of commitment, vision and leadership".

Dr Deane said the Division had also become an 'employer of choice' and that health professionals had been attracted from out of the region to work for the organisation.

"The Barwon Division has one of the highest staff retention rates out of all the Divisions across Australia", he said.

"Fiona has also managed to attract allied health professionals from as far away as Sydney to work for the Division.

"This has helped the organisation to work towards its objective of ensuring that people living in this region are not geographically disadvantaged in terms of their access to adequate health care", Dr Deane said.

The Barwon Division of General Practice is an organisation which provides support and resources to the GPs in the region. It employs allied health professionals, provides local education for GPs and practice staff and provides information, resources and administrative support to practices in an effort to tackle chronic diseases and promote illness prevention.

The Barwon Division was recently awarded the 2009 Narrabri Best Business Award for Health and Medical Related Services and also received the Moree Best Professional Business Award in 2008.

Dr Deane said the awards recognise the hard work and dedication Fiona Strang and all her staff have brought to the organisation over the last decade.

"On behalf of the staff at the Division and all the GPs and health professionals who work with Fiona, I would like to thank her for her professionalism and dedication as a CEO and look forward to working with her in the future as the BDGP continues to bring improved health to the residents of the region through its support of GPs, General Practices and the provision of clinical services", he said.

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