

Media Release

The Hon Martin Foley MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services
Minister for Equality



Thursday, 31 March 2022

NEW COMMUNITY HEALTH HUB DELIVERED HEYWOOD FAMILIES

Families in Heywood and from across South-West Victoria will benefit from a newly completed Community Health Hub delivered by the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Health Martin Foley visit Heywood to tour the new facility which was made possible through the Labor Government's \$490 million Regional Health Infrastructure Fund (RHIF).

The \$680,000 project saw the Heywood's medical and primary health services move into a new redeveloped Community Health Hub to provide a 'one stop healthcare shop' – giving the local community greater control over their health outcomes.

Combining medical and primary health care services in the one facility will ensure patients and clients can receive care and treatment in a seamless fashion, whilst also supporting health service staff to work more efficiently and effectively.

In addition to modernising the existing facility works delivered two new multi-purpose rooms and a reception area, as well the refurbishment of the building's main entry, corridor and consulting room.

By combining key medical and primary health care services under the one roof this allows for better 'end to end' medical care and treatment.

Additionally, it will also allow for future expansion and growth of Heywood Rural Health as it responds to present and future healthcare needs of communities across the South-West.

The delivery of the new Community Health Hub builds on other recent health funding for Heywood provided by the Andrews Labor Government.

This includes \$215,000 funding through the fifth round of the RHIF for the replacement of critical Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure. This project is on track for completion in late 2022.

The Labor Government's RHIF was established in 2016 to help regional and rural health services improve the safety and quality of services, service capacity, models of care, patient and staff amenity and service efficiency. The largest program of its kind, the RHIF has funded more than 480 health infrastructure projects since inception.

Since coming to office, the Andrews Labor Government has invested more than \$133 billion into the healthcare system and the workers who support it.

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Martin Foley

"Through initiatives like the RHIF - the largest program of its kind in Victoria's history - the Andrews Labor Government is making it easier for local families to access the healthcare services they need, closer to home."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney

"Heywood's new Community Health Hub is a win-win for local communities by providing convenient and seamless access to a range of medical and primary healthcare services under the one roof."

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