Global Green and Healthy Hospitals Pacific Region Annual Report 2022/23



Coordinated in the





Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) Pacific Region Annual Report 2022/23

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About Global Green and Healthy Hospitals





Established by Health Care Without Harm in 2011, <u>Global Green</u> and <u>Healthy Hospitals</u> (GGHH) is a collaborative network of health institutions that are committed to reducing their ecological footprint and promoting public and environmental health.

In June 2023 the GGHH network now includes over 1,751 members, representing over 70,633 hospitals and health services across 81 countries.

GGHH is based around a framework of 10 interconnected goals outlined in the GGHH Agenda. All GGHH members endorse this agenda when they become members.



LEADERSHIP

Prioritise environmental health as a strategic imperative



WASTE

Reduce, treat and safely dispose of healthcare waste



WATER

Reduce hospital water consumption and supply potable water



FOOD

Purchase and serve sustainably grown, healthy food



BUILDINGS

Support green and healthy hospital design and construction



CHEMICALS

Substitute harmful chemicals with safer alternatives



ENERGY

Implement energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy generation



TRANSPORTATION

Improve transportation strategies for patients and staff



PHARMACEUTICALS

Prescribe appropriately, safely manage and properly dispose of pharmaceuticals



PURCHASING

Buy safer and more sustainable products and materials

GGHH is a community in which members learn from one another by sharing information and experiences to help accelerate the transition to low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable healthcare across the world.

The three goals of GGHH are to:







GGHH provides member benefits and resources available through Connect, an online collaboration platform. Through Connect GGHH members can access:

- Resources (Guidance documents for Buildings, Waste, Water, Energy, Sustainable Procurement, and Chemicals)
- Webinar recordings
- Data management tools (available for Waste, Energy, Climate Impact Check Up Tool);
- Discussion forums;
- and a library of case studies from GGHH members in each of the 10 GGHH goal areas.

GGHH members have the opportunity to take part in global initiatives that demonstrate collective action for climate-smart healthcare, including the Health Care Climate Challenge and Race to Zero.



With a mission to heal, health care has an opportunity to use its ethical, economic, and political influence to be a climate leader.

Health Care Climate Challenge

The <u>Health Care Climate Challenge</u> engages and equips health care institutions – from small clinics to large health systems to ministries of health – to commit to effective climate action while building collective impact across countries and across borders. The awards recognise health institutions for their work on climate change across three broad categories:

1

Mitigation

Reducing health care's own carbon footprint and/or fostering low carbon health care 2

Resilience

Preparing for the impacts of extreme weather and the shifting burden of disease

3

Leadership

Educating staff and the public while promoting policies to protect public health from climate change

To take part in the Challenge, health institutions first sign the Climate Challenge Pledge, then report their mitigation, resilience and leadership actions annually (as available and appropriate).

Health institutions taking part in the Challenge are contributing to a global collaborative effort to address climate change within the health sector, and have the opportunity to be internationally recognised for their efforts through the annual Health Care Climate Champions Awards.

Race to Zero (RtZ)

Race to Zero (RtZ) is a global campaign initiated by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to rally leadership and support from non-state actors for a healthy, resilient, zero-carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth. All members are committed to the same overarching goal: reducing emissions across all scopes swiftly and fairly in line with the Paris Agreement, with transparent action plans to achieve 50% greenhouse gas emissions reduction by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050 at the latest.

About GGHH Pacific Region

The Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA) is proud to coordinate the Pacific region of the GGHH network (since 2012), which includes 100+ health institutions across Australia and New Zealand.

Coordinating the GGHH Pacific Network contributes to CAHA's mission to build a powerful health sector movement for climate action and sustainable healthcare. One of CAHA's core strategies is to support the health sector to cut emissions and build climate health resilience.

You can read further information about CAHA's work in the <u>2022–23 Annual Report</u>, the <u>Ten Year of Impact Report</u>, and the <u>2020–2023 Strategic Plan</u>. Our previous 2021–22 GGHH Pacific Annual Report can be viewed <u>here</u>.





The past year has seen a proliferation of GGHH members in Australia and New Zealand amplifying their efforts to contribute to a sustainable and climate resilient health sector. We applaud members for their persistence through challenges and congratulate members on their many achievements. We look forward to continuing to support members over the next year.

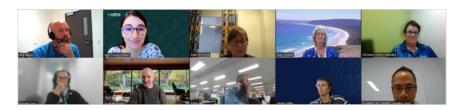
Stefanie Carino

Sustainable Healthcare Program Manager, Climate and Health Alliance

What we do

Quarterly online member meetings

CAHA facilitates online Pacific region GGHH member meetings every quarter. These meetings are an opportunity for members to hear from guest speakers on an array of sustainable healthcare topics and connect with sustainable healthcare champions throughout our region.



Email group

The GGHH Pacific region email group facilitates communication between members in our region. A weekly round up email is sent to this group to share recent sustainable healthcare focused news, events and resources.

New member orientation meetings

We run orientation meetings for new members periodically which provides an overview of our resources, GGHH connect and an opportunity to meet fellow new GGHH members.

Sustainable Healthcare Newsletter

GGHH member's achievements feature prominently in our bi-monthly sustainable healthcare newsletter. You can <u>subscribe to the newsletter</u> here.

Greening the Healthcare Sector Forum

The Greening the Healthcare Sector Forum has been run by Climate and Health Alliance along with a partner healthcare organisation since 2012. Further information about the 2022 forum is included in the following section.

GGHH Pacific region 2022-23

In 2022-23, our GGHH membership increased to 150 members, representing 2,399 individual hospitals, health services and health organisations.



NEW MEMBERS

Evolution Care

St Luke's Care

Hospitals North, Tasmanian

Health Service

Royal Children's Hospital

Department of Health Northern

Territory

Vision Eye Institute

Monash University Department of Nutrition. Dietetics and Food

Public Health Division,

Department for Health and

Wellbeing

Your Community Health

Alfred Health

Queen Elizabeth centre

Royal Flying Doctor Service

Victoria

Rural Northwest Health

Australian Podiatry Association

Monash Health

Rural Northwest Health

CRANAPlus

Te Whatu Ora - Health NZ

Department of Health, Tasmania

Lakeview private hospital

central Highlands Rural Health

Wolper Jewish Hospital

Mercy Radiology

NSW Ministry of Health

The full current list of members can be viewed here.



MEMBERS CASE STUDIES

We worked with members to release 8 new GGHH case studies. They are all accessible to GGHH members on GGHH connect. They include:

Facilitating Environmentally Sustainable and Climate
Resilient Healthcare - Sunshine Coast Hospital and
Health Service/Griffith/GGHH

Serving Up Bush Tucker - Fiona Stanley Hospital

Reducing single use plastics - South West Healthcare

Nitrous Oxide Reduction - Southern Cross Hospitals

Paper Towel Composting, Auckland District Health Board

Reuse of untouched oral nutrition supplements - Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service

A green future for Green Labs - Peter MacCallum Cancer

Delivering a Positive Future - Fiona Stanley Hospital

The complete list of GGHH Pacific case studies can be viewed by GGHH members on GGHH connect.







Health Care Climate Challenge & Climate Champion Awards

The Health Care Climate Challenge is a Health Care Without Harm initiative that mobilises healthcare institutions around the world to play a leadership role in addressing climate change.

The Challenge is based on three pillars:



Mitigation

Reducing health care's own carbon footprint and/or fostering low carbon health care





Resilience

Preparing for the impacts of extreme weather and the shifting burden of disease

2



Leadership

Educating staff and the public while promoting policies to protect public health from climate change

3

To take part in the Challenge, health institutions first <u>sign the Climate Challenge Pledge</u>, then report their mitigation, resilience and leadership actions annually (as available and appropriate).

Health institutions taking part in the Challenge are contributing to a global collaborative effort to address climate change within the health sector, and have the opportunity to be internationally recognised for their efforts through the annual **Health Care Climate Champions Awards**.

Health Care Climate Champions

Five members of the GGHH Pacific network were internationally recognised in the Health Care Climate Champion awards for their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience and/or demonstrate climate leadership for climate action.



The following members received awards:

Ambulance Victoria

Gold - Climate Resilience

Gold - Climate Leadership

Gold - Renewable Energy

Counties Manukau District Health Board

Silver - Climate Leadership

Hunter New England Local Health District

Silver - Climate Leadership

Silver - Renewable Energy

Silver - Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Energy)

Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District

Silver - Climate Leadership

South Metropolitan Health Service

Silver - Climate Leadership

Read more about the awards here.

IRACE TO ZERO



With a Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement already in place for **Ambulance Victoria's** 14 large energy consuming sites, in FY23 all smaller sites on the electricity State Purchasing Contract were transitioned to 100% GreenPower. This transition achieved an 11% reduction in electricity emissions, paving the way to work with landlords with the aim of converting leased sites to GreenPower in the future.



Hunter New England's Local Health District

'Sustainable Healthcare: Together Towards Zero' strategy is sector transforming. It outlines a commitment and strategy to achieve carbon and waste neutrality by 2030, a first for any health service in Australia. The strategy focuses on both top-down and bottom-up strategies with a clear focus on innovation and originality. To date we have

- A reduction in Co2 emissions by 24%
- The capture and recycling of 29% of all rainwater that lands on a HNE roof
- The reduction of water usage by 23%
- The diversion of 14% of general waste from landfill
- Recurrent savings of \$2.2 million
- 30 staff led Sustainability Action Groups delivering local initiatives



In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, **Your Community Health** (YourCH) in Melbourne,
Australia launched *Our Climate*. *Our Health*, its first climate action plan, detailing how YourCH will lead climate action in its community to drive better health and sustainability outcomes.

The main goals of the Plan include:

- Aiming for net zero emissions by 2040
- Making its health centres, equipment and products more energy and water efficient
- Pushing for the healthcare sector to embrace climate action and lower emissions
- Teaching community about the health effects of climate change
- Embedding environmental sustainability throughout the entire business.

YourCH's commitment to climate action has already resulted in several successes against the Plan's goals, including:

- Joining Global Green and Healthy Hospitals and the Race to Zero initiative.
- Replacing the majority of their vehicles with electric vehicles
- Installing solar panels and solar hot water across their health centres
- Supporting the Gas Free Healthy Homes initiative, which successfully petitioned the State Government to end gas connections for new homes and public buildings from 2024.

Read more about YourCH's climate action goals in <u>Our Climate</u>. <u>Our Health</u>.

The Eye Surgery

Member Decarbonisation Commitments

Up to 30 June 2023, a growing number of members had shared their own public carbon emissions reduction targets including:

Ambulance Victoria

Net zero by

2045

60%

reduction by

2030

Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Vic branch)

Net zero by

2035

Austin Health (VIC)

Net zero by

2040

Barwon Health (VIC)

Net zero by

2050

Hunter New England Local Health District (NSW)

Carbon Neutral by

2030

Mercy Health (VIC/NSW)

Net zero by

2030

Metro North Health (QLD)

Net zero by

2050

30%

reduction by

2030

Monash Health (VIC)

carbon neutral by

2030

Northern Health (VIC)

Net zero by

2040

North Metropolitan Health Service (WA)

Net zero by

2050

80% reduction by

2030

Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSW)

Net zero by

2035

for scope 1 + 2, with a 70-80% reduction by 2030

Net zero by

2050

for scope 3, with a 50% reduction by 2035

11

Peninsula Health (VIC)

Net zero by

2050

Ramsay Health Care Australia

Net zero by

2040

Royal Flying Doctor Service (Victoria)

Net zero by

2040

The Royal Womens Hospital (VIC)

Net zero by

2030

Southern Cross Healthcare (NZ)

Net zero by

2040

South Metropolitan Health Service (WA)

Net zero by

2040

St John of God Health Care

Net zero emissions by

2050

50% reduction by

2030

Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (NSW)

Net zero by

2035

Tasmania Health Service

Net zero by

2030

Uniting Care (QLD)

70%

reduction (scope 1 & scope 2) by

2030

Child and Adolescent Health Service (WA)

Net zero by

2040

Western NSW LHD (NSW)

Netzero by

2050

50% reduction by

2030

75% reduction by

2035

Your Community Health (VIC)

Net zero carbon by

2040

60% reduction by

2030

Australia Federal

The Australian Government has committed to reduce national emissions by 43% below 2005 levels by 2030, and to achieve net zero national emissions by 2050. These targets apply to all parts of the Australian economy, including the health system.

Northern Territory —

NT Health target of net zero emissions by 2050 and an operational emissions reduction target of 47% by 2030 (compared with 2021 emissions). NT Health drafted an Operational Emissions Reduction Plan in 2023 and actions from this Plan are underway.

Western Australia

State-wide target of net zero by 2050. The <u>WA</u>
Government has a target of reducing emissions by 80% below 2020 levels by 2030.

South Australia

The South Australian Government's emissions reduction targets are to reduce GHG emissions by more than 50% by 2030 (from 2005 levels) and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

We are currently progressing the SA Health Climate Change Framework, which will be available for consultation in the coming months.

Victoria

The Victorian Government has set the following targets to cut the state's emissions on the path to net zero emissions by 2045:

28-33% by 2025 | 45-50% by 2030 | 75-80% by 2035.

The Department of Health is working on delivering the Victorian Government's commitment to source 100% renewable electricity for all government operations by 2025.

The department continues to deliver upon its 2022-26 Health and Human Services Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan.

Tasmania

State-wide target of net zero emission by 2030. The Department of Health is currently in the process of developing and implementing an environmental sustainability strategy that prioritises the four of GGHH top sustainability goals: Leadership, Waste, Transportation and Buildings.

Queensland

Queensland Health has a new interim emission target of 75% below 2005 levels by 2035, and is working towards net zero emissions by 2050. Queensland Health has a <u>Climate Risk Strategy 2021-26</u>.

New South Wales

NSW Health commits to a modern, low carbon, low waste, climate resilient health system and to halving healthcare emissions by 2030, and achieving net zero emissions by 2050. (In line with the state-wide target of net zero by 2050, halving emissions by 2030 and reducing emissions by 70% by 2035 [compared to 2005 levels]).

Australian Capital Territory

ACT committed to establish and implement a pathway to a zero emissions ACT Government health sector by 2040.

Aotearoa New Zealand

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand is working through an Interim Work Programme leading to 2025. Our baseline <u>GHG Emissions Inventory</u> was published in 2023, and this will be used to create an Emissions Reduction Plan in line with the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP) requirements. The primary decarbonisation target through the CNGP is to reach carbon neutrality by 2025. In addition, Aotearoa New Zealand:

- Is legislated to achieve net zero by 2050 under the Zero Carbon Amendment Act 2019.
- Has pledged to reduce emissions to 50% below gross 2005 levels by 2030 (NDC under the Paris Agreement).

Te Whatu Ora's Interim Health Plan (Te Pae Tata) 2022 highlights climate change as a priority and lists a number of actions for Te Whatu Ora.

Member Spotlights

South Metropolitan Health Service

One of the key achievements of the South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) in 2022-2023 was the launch of the first SMHS Environmental Sustainability Strategy, which was developed in consultation with our staff who were clear that they wanted our health service to be a leader in climate action and to set ambitious targets.

Reflecting this, we have committed to a net zero target of 2040, which is ahead of the WA State Government target of 2050 but in line with the State target of reducing emissions by 80 per cent by 2030.

SMHS has also undertaken an initial measurement of our carbon footprint with the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) Climate Impact Tool, using data from 2020-2021 to provide a benchmark for emissions reduction going forward.

The process highlighted gaps in the availability of data and the complexity of data collection. Further work is required to expand and enhance data collection.

We also celebrated the success of the Think Before You Bluey campaign. In the first year of the campaign, there was an overall reduction of 21 per cent in use, or 82,150 fewer blueys going to landfill, which represents 1.9 tonnes of waste avoided. In addition, \$19,500 was saved on purchasing blueys and \$500 in waste disposal costs. The project was highly commended in the WA Waste Authority WasteSorted Awards 2023.

To assist in building knowledge and capacity amongst our staff, we launched an online learning module on climate health, which includes steps staff can take to implement ideas in their local

area. To date, more than 200 staff have completed the e-learning.

In addition, we introduced the SMHS Marketplace - an internal platform for people to post small

office items and stationery items seeking a new home. The Marketplace has been successfully used by staff instead of purchasing new items, helping to reducing costs and waste.







Royal Melbourne Hospital

The RMH 2022 Sustainability Competition

In 2022, the Royal Melbourne Hospital (RMH) launched the inaugural sustainability competition. Clinical and non-clinical staff were invited to submit entries for projects that achieved emissions, waste or resource reductions, while increasing awareness of the environmental impact of the healthcare sector. 13 entries were submitted from a range of areas. The collective

impact of these projects totalled 2.5KT CO2e of emissions reduction, and \$500,000 in cost savings.

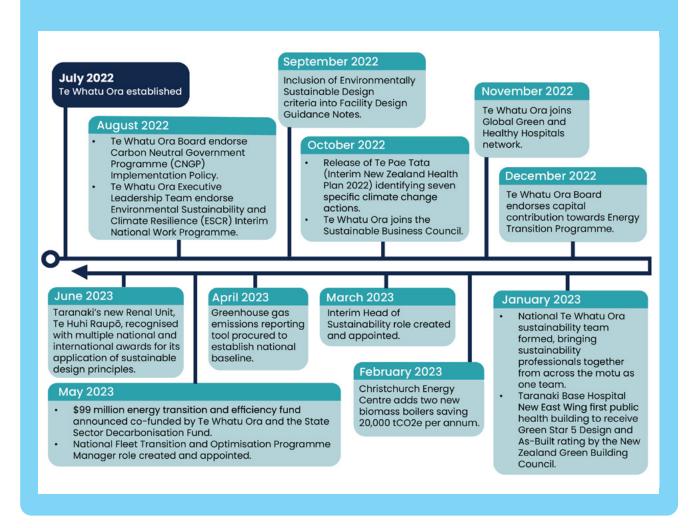
The image captures competition winners Dr Fahad Yousif and Dr Bjorn Makein (ED consulting doctors), who submitted the Choosing Wisely project implemented by our ED Sustainability Improvement Group.



Te Whatu Ora (NZ)

The first year of Te Whatu Ora has seen some significant sustainability achievements, building on the work undertaken by DHBs leading up to its creation. Just one month after establishment, Te Whatu Ora board endorsed both the CNGP and the Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience Interim National Work Programme.

In just under a year, it had announced the removal of all remaining hospital coal boilers by 2025, and had secured \$99 million for additional energy transition projects. These and other achievements from the first year are highlighted in the figure below. Te Whatu Ora hopes to keep progressing at pace in this significant and imperative work programme.



Barwon Health

The Barwon Renewable Energy Partnership (B-REP) of Barwon Water, Barwon Health and GeelongPort has collectively taken a big step towards using 100% renewable electricity and producing net zero emissions.

In 2022, the B-REP entered a power purchase agreement with the Mount Gellibrand Wind Farm near Birregurra for the provision of 68 gigawatt hours a year of renewable electricity.

The 10-year agreement will see renewable electricity produced at the farm and sent to a grid allocated to the three partners, offsetting the energy used at their Geelong facilities.

This will provide Barwon Health with 15 gigawatt hours of clean electricity annually for a decade, potentially reducing total greenhouse gas emissions by around 70 per cent or 14,700 tonnes per year.



Sydney Children's Hospital

In the 2022-23 financial year in partnership with Office of Energy & Climate Change in NSW Treasury and ARUP, the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (SCHN) established its first carbon footprint, including scope 1, 2, and 3 in the emissions report. With the footprint established SCHN committed to a net zero target of 2035 for emissions that are in the Networks control and 2050 for those that the Network has influence over. SCHN has developed a Net Zero roadmap that identifies carbon hotspots and sets an admissions reductions pathway outlining actions required to achieve these targets.

SCHN has established strong governance including the creation of a Sustainability Manager role, the formation of an executive level Net Zero Governance Group and the embedding of clinical leads across 'hotspot' areas to enable action on climate change.

The Network celebrated many achievements across the year with some highlights including; being rewarded two NSW Health Sustainable Futures funding grants to measure Nitrous Oxide gas use and leakage, and for the installation of power generating bike workstations. LED lighting is being rolled out across both Children's Hospitals as one of the many energy reduction initiatives. SCHN also introduced sustainability awards into the Hospitals' annual party days to build staff awareness of our impact on climate change.



Greening the Healthcare Sector Forum 2022

In 2022, CAHA partnered with Hunter New England Local Health District to deliver the forum. Forum objectives were to:

- 1. Foster connection & knowledge sharing in our region
- 2. Facilitate learning and upskilling
- 3. Showcase sustainable healthcare action underway

















The Forum featured current research and policy to support the transition to net zero carbon and environmentally sustainable healthcare, and showcased practical examples of sustainable healthcare in action.

The theme was "'Driving systems change for sustainable healthcare".

Program sessions were titled:

- 1. Where are we at? Gathering the evidence
- What can we do? Sustainable healthcare and circular economy solutions in practice
- 3. What is the big picture? Policy for sustainable healthcare

More information about the forum is available in the report <u>here</u>.

Forum recordings available <u>here</u>





Climate Learning Initiative

Sustainable Healthcare Program
Manager, Dr Stefanie Carino attended
the Global Gathering for Health
care Climate Action in Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania in May 2023. There
she joined representatives from 11
organisations, all members of the
international Global Green and Healthy
Hospitals and Practice Greenhealth
networks. This was the first event of its
kind, with the objectives to:

- 1. Revise a set of recommendations for the global health sector to achieve net zero while centering health equity.
- 2. Build the foundations of a global peer network, collectively working to design climate adaptation approaches, build resilience, and reach net zero.
- 3. Bring together representatives from different regions of the world to share best practices and challenges in achieving net zero.

CAHA also supported the <u>Hunter New England</u>
<u>Local Health District</u> to share their experience as a
Race to Zero participant.







The result of the Global Gathering was the development of a step-by-step guidance for sustainable, climate-smart care informed by the race to zero journey of attendees. The guidance document and case studies developed as part of this initiative can be viewed on the Health Care Climate Learning Initiative site. Two other case studies by Mercy Health and Royal Darwin Hospital were selected for inclusion in this initiative.

Other Projects

EPIC for Health pilot project

CAHA continued work on the EPIC for Health pilot project in partnership with Plastic Oceans Australasia, funded by the Minderoo Foundation. This project supported two GGHH member health services, Austin Health and King Edward Memorial Hospital, to reduce their single use plastics.

A summary report, Austin Health case study and a King Edward Memorial Hospital case study are available on the CAHA website.



Facilitating Health System Transitions - Climate Resilient and Sustainable Healthcare

In collaboration with Griffith University and GGHH member Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service, a pilot project on Facilitating Health System Transitions - Climate Resilient and Sustainable Healthcare was completed.

The pilot;

a) investigated current attitudes, knowledge and practices regarding environmentally sustainable and climate resilient health care through a staff survey, and

b) developed and evaluated an environmental sustainability checklist for SCHHS staff to apply within their work units and Teams.

A case study about the pilot can be accessed on <u>GGHH connect</u>, and a <u>summary of the case study</u> is available here.

Join us

GGHH membership is free of charge for hospitals, health services, health and aged care facilities, health systems and health organisations.

Once an organisation becomes a member, nominated employees can access sustainable healthcare resources and connect with sustainable healthcare colleagues.

To become a member, visit the GGHH **Join the Network** webpage.

For questions related to GGHH and how to join, please email **gghh@caha.org.au**

GGHH is proudly coordinated in the Pacific region by the Climate and Health Alliance.

The Climate and Health Alliance unites health organisations to create a powerful movement for climate action and sustainable healthcare.

Health professionals and health organisations are welcome to boost their support by **joining CAHA** as a member.



