

# The PHN

## Supporting Allied Health

### WHO IS THE PHN?

The Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network (The PHN) is a not-for-profit organisation funded by the Commonwealth government to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the primary health care system. Our purpose is to deliver innovative, locally relevant solutions that measurably improve the health outcomes of our communities.

### WHY WE SUPPORT ALLIED HEALTH

Allied health is the second-largest clinical workforce in Australia and demand for allied health over the next decade is expected to continue to grow, especially in rural areas. Allied Health play a critical role in primary healthcare in helping people to lead healthier lives – and if they become unwell to receive the right care in the right place at the right time.



### HOW DOES THE PHN SUPPORT ALLIED HEALTH IN OUR REGION?

#### Allied Health Strategy

In partnership with Allied Health Professionals, the PHN developed a regional specific Allied Health Strategy (AHS) for the Hunter, New England Central Coast.

#### Advisory Group

We set up an Allied Health Reference Group (AHRG) who provide multidisciplinary input and advice to guide the implementation of the AHS.

#### Commissioned services

We provide commissioned services such as the Priority Allied Health Services.

We strengthen local availability of services such as allied health and mental health through commissioning activities designed to meet local needs.

#### Care Coordination

We set up networks to improve care coordination across general practice, allied health, hospitals, pharmacies and specialists' services.

#### Data

We support Allied Health Practices to use their data to improve care for their patients.

#### Digital Health

We support Allied Health with My Health Records set-up and implementation as well as with other digital health innovations such as specific allied health telehealth resources.

#### Grants and assistance

We provide information about government funding and assistance programs.

#### Quality Improvement

We design quality improvement initiatives and support the adoption of best practice care across areas including chronic disease, mental health and diabetes.

#### Training

We offer, and connect allied health with education, training, and networking events.

#### Members Assistance Program

We offer, confidential and complimentary access to (3) counselling sessions for allied health employees in our region.

#### Clinical decision support

We offer clinical decision support tool and referral point for services in the region. To register for HealthPathways see below.



#### CENTRAL COAST

<https://centralcoast.healthpathways.org.au>

Then use the Request Access link

#### HUNTER NEW ENGLAND

<https://hne.communityhealthpathways.org/>

Then use the Register Now link

#### CONTACT

The PHN has established human resources to support Allied health professionals  
Phone: 1300 859 028 or email: [alliedhealth@thephn.com.au](mailto:alliedhealth@thephn.com.au)