

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



NSW RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK  
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

## The NSW Rural Doctors Network (RDN) offers a range of toolkits and resources to assist communities, and general practices, with succession planning and to help address local health workforce issues.

RDN operates five General Practitioner (GP) Succession Planning Groups within the Hunter New England Central Coast, Western NSW and Murrumbidgee Primary Health Networks (PHNs).

These groups monitor the GP workforce issues facing towns in each region and RDN works in conjunction with PHNs, Local Health Districts (LHDs) and GP Synergy to seek collaborative solutions to identified issues.

RDN recognises that each community is unique and works at a community level in towns identified and prioritised through its Health Workforce Needs Assessment to:

- identify local workforce issues and broader issues affecting the community
- work collaboratively with local stakeholders to develop solutions tailored to that community
- assist with local community-based workforce planning.

### What can communities do?

- You can connect with health professionals and their families to welcome them to the community and help orientate them.
- You can offer to help with childcare or assist spouses to gain employment.
- You can assist with providing mentors and social engagement for the John Flynn Placement Program for medical students gaining rural experiences.
- You can encourage your council to sponsor bush bursaries for medical students which offer two-week rural immersion experiences for medical students.

### THIS SERVICE MAY BENEFIT



FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES



PRACTICE MANAGERS,  
STAFF AND OWNERS



ALLIED HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS



DOCTORS



NURSES AND  
MIDWIVES

For more information please contact our recruitment team

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# ABOUT NSW RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK

## NSW Rural Doctors Network

The NSW Rural Doctors Network (RDN) is a not-for-profit and non-government organisation and is designated by the Australian Government as the Rural Workforce Agency (RWA) for health in New South Wales.

RDN aims to ensure that the highest possible standard of health care is available to remote, rural and regional communities in NSW through the provision of a highly skilled health workforce.

RDN offers a range of services, programs and activities across NSW that:

- help remote, rural and regional communities, General Practices and health services to find suitably skilled and qualified General Practitioners (GPs), nurses and allied health professionals to work in their towns
- assist suitably skilled and qualified GPs, nurses and allied health professionals to pursue careers in remote, rural and regional NSW (both Australian and International Medical Graduates/Overseas Trained Doctors)
- support existing remote, rural and regional doctors, nurses and allied health professionals through the provision of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities and succession planning
- provide financial support for further study, training and short courses
- assist in finding locum support for remote, rural and regional GPs, including through our unique and free RDN Locum Match
- deliver a wide range of Health Outreach services to rural towns
- support remote, rural and regional medical partners and families
- provide a range of scholarships, support and information for students studying medicine or health-related degrees in NSW.

RDN also works with:

- Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to support health services for Aboriginal peoples
- rural NSW Primary Health Networks to support remote, rural and regional GPs
- local communities, governments and rural Local Health Districts on medical workforce matters
- university medical faculties to promote rural medicine.