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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New report shows return on investment in women's health: $1.88 saved for every dollar invested

Women's Health NSW (WHNSW) is proud to announce the release of its first collective impact report, *Women's Health Centres: Enhancement Funding Collective Impact*. The report outlines the community women's health sector's key achievements since the NSW Government's $34.3 million Enhancement Funding investment.

The sector has demonstrated what can be achieved with a strategic investment in community-based women's health services and is now returning **an estimated $1.88 in benefits to NSW Government for every $1 invested.**

"This report demonstrates the power of targeted investment in women's health," said Margherita Basile, Chair of Women's Health NSW board and Chief Executive Officer of Sydney Women's Counselling Centre.

Since the NSW Government's investment over four years in the 2023–24 State Budget, the NSW women's health sector has stabilised women's health centres, rebuilt essential service infrastructure, and expanded access to integrated physical and mental health care and support for women most in need.

"Through strategic partnerships and an increased ability to attract funding for evidence-based sector-wide programs, we've expanded our footprint across NSW, and improved our ability to address critical health inequalities," said Denele Crozier AM, Chief Executive Officer of Women's Health NSW.

The report provides a snapshot of how women's health centres across the state used the investment to rebuild their workforce and systems, develop and expand services, and deliver more accessible health care for women in NSW.

In 2025–26, women's health centres supported approximately 27,000 women to address over 256,000 presenting issues.

Women in priority health populations benefited the most from the investment. In 2025–26, the demographic profile of Women's Health Centre clients included:

- 69% on a low income, pension or government benefit;
- 19% from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- 7% Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander women; and
- 13% were women with disability.

The need for ongoing investment in women's health care remains: the number of women in NSW is projected to grow by 5.8% over the next five years, and women in NSW continue to experience high rates of domestic, family and sexual violence, with incidents growing at an alarming rate.

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To sustain the significant achievements of the last three years, and the improvements in access to health care for women, the sector needs the NSW Government to keep on investing in women's health.

"Enhancement Funding is not an add-on to our service delivery; it is essential to our core business. It has enabled our Centre to reach more women, respond quickly to emerging community need, and provide integrated health care, support and education for women who face the greatest barriers to accessing mainstream services," said Dr Ses Salmond, Chief Executive Officer of Leichhardt Women's Community Health Centre.

Read the full report, *NSW Women's Health Centres: Enhancement Funding Collective Impact* .

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High resolution photos downloadable HERE.

About Women's Health NSW

Women's Health NSW is the peak body for 21 non-government community-based women's health centres and special purpose services operating in New South Wales. We are proactive on priority issues relevant to women's health, advocating for improved health outcomes that allow women and girls to reach their full potential. Our network works in a way that prioritises safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration, and empowerment.

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