



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2013

SALSA is a partnership program proudly associated with Rooty Hill High School, Mt Druitt Medical Practitioners Association, Blacktown Medical Practitioners Association & Primary Health Care Education and Research Unit

Team in July this year. Amy is a Master of Public Health student at the University of Sydney. Dr. Corinne Patching has also been employed as a Senior Project Officer one day a week. Corinne has worked previously on the SALSA program.

SALSA since June

Term 3 was very fast paced with a whirlwind of activities and accomplishments for the SALSA program. After securing 3 year funding from the Department of Health, SALSA has begun to develop plans and strategies for 2014 and beyond.

SALSA Schools

SALSA Peer Leader consultation and certificate presentations were held in 5 high schools.

The presentations were a success and each one had a General Practitioner attend from either Blacktown or Mt Druitt General Practitioners Association.

Blacktown Girl's also had the privilege of a special guest, Universaide Silver Medallist in swimming, Andrew Abood.

New Project Staff

SALSA welcomed new Project Officer Amy Andrew to the



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MEDIA

SALSA appeared in an article in the August edition of Western Sydney Local Health District's Newsletter 'The Pulse'. The office of local MP Julie Owen published a media release on SALSA activity and funding on the 2nd of September.

SALSA REACHING HOME ENVIRONMENTS

We are undertaking formative research in Term 4 to consolidate strategies for the program to reach the home environment in 2014.

Research will consultation with Year 8 students, Year 10 Peer Leaders, PDHPE staff, parents of students involved in the SALSA program and school principals.

SALSA 2014

We plan to implement the program in an additional 10 schools in 2014. We will be inviting all Public schools in Western Sydney to an information afternoon on the 22nd of November at Rooty Hill High School.

We look forward to working with new and existing partnerships to roll out a more comprehensive program in 2014, including ways

to target families and the wider school environment.

FUNDING

Funding was received for 1 year from Western Sydney Medicare Local for the Project Officer position.

SALSA secured further 3 year funding from the Department of Health.

This financial support has allowed us to broaden the scope of the program and expand the program into more schools throughout Western Sydney over the next 2 years.

Below: SALSA Peer Leaders from Mitchell HS show off their awards at the Peer Leader Presentation

Above left: SALSA Peer Leaders from Erskine Park HS with SALSA Project Officer Amy Andrew

Above Right: Special guests, swimmer Andrew Abood and Dr. Yvette Castellino at Blacktown Girl's High School for Peer Leader presentation

Thank you to all our partners and everyone who has helped to make SALSA possible this year. You are all integral to its operation and its growth. We look forward to sharing our formative research results with you in the New Year.

