New Health Centre opens in Kalkaringi

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The Territory Government has officially opened the new $3.17 million Kalkaringi Health Centre, to be run by the Katherine West Health Board.

Health Minister, Kon Vatskalis, and the Member for Stuart, Karl Hampton, met with community members and inspected the new facility today.

“Improved health outcomes for all Territorians is a key priority for this Government, especially in our remote regions,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“This new health centre is designed to effectively provide a wide range of health services to residents of the entire region, including Kalkaringi, Daguragu, Inverway, Wave Hill, Riverend, Bunda, Limbunya and all the way out to Pigeon Hole (Njitpurru).

“Over an estimated 12 month period, the Kalkaringi Health Centre is projected to see approximately 10,000 clients.

“The facility, built out of the flood zone, will incorporate a GP, two Registered Nurses, two Aboriginal Health Workers, allied health professionals, ancillary staff and medical specialists working in multidisciplinary teams to provide integrated care services to meet the health needs and priorities of the greater community.”

The Member for Stuart, Karl Hampton, said the purpose built $3.17 million health centre is designed to provide a culturally appropriate and respectful environment to men and women, with separate entrances and service areas.

“In addition to the high quality health care, the centre will provide a focus for community health activities and education,” said Mr Hampton.

“The range of primary health carers and specialists set to work out of the facility includes Environmental Health Officers, Food Supply Nutritionists, Maternal and Child Health Nurses, Dentists, Orthopaedic Surgeons and Anaesthetists, Paediatricians and Podiatrists.

“I am delighted to be here today with Minister Vatskalis and the Katherine West Health Board - including Dr Andrew Bell, Director Primary Health Care - to open the health centre.”

The Kalkaringi Health Centre will operate during regular business hours, and additionally run an extension of operations in the form of a 24 hour on-call service.

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