

MEDIA RELEASE

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DOLLARS SOUGHT FOR EXPANSION OF DIALYSIS UNIT

Yarram and District Health Service (YDHS) has kicked off its latest fundraising campaign with hopes to raise \$50,000 for a new dialysis unit.

YDHS currently has three dialysis machines and chairs onsite at Yarram, however demand for the service is increasing.

According to YDHS Chief Executive Officer Paul Head, being able to offer this service in a smaller regional area such as Yarram can make a huge difference to the overall health and wellbeing of dialysis patients as well as their family members, carers and friends.

“It means they may not have to travel much further distances to be able to access this critical service,” Mr Head said.

“In addition, it means that family members and friends that might require dialysis are able to visit Yarram knowing they can access the essential care they require right here at YDHS.”

According to the Federal Government’s Institute of Health and Welfare, the number of people with kidney failure who received dialysis more than doubled between 2000 and 2021 from 6,400 to 15,200.

Mr Head says YDHS is seeing an increase in demand for its dialysis services with this demand projected to increase further in the coming years.

“We’re definitely seeing a growth in demand for this service, thus why we’ve chosen to focus our fundraising efforts through this campaign on doubling the capacity of our dialysis unit,” Mr Head said.

“The addition of another three dialysis machines will allow us to expand our offering and provide the services that are most needed by the community, as well as help to ensure we’re prepared for the projected growth in demand for this service in the years ahead.”

“We’ve already been lucky enough to receive a number of generous donations from individuals and local community organisations and businesses that have put us well on the way to reaching our target and we’re incredibly grateful for their generosity,” Mr Head said.

Donations can be made directly to YDHS in person, or online by visiting the following web page - <https://ydhs-dialysis-fundraising-campaign.raisely.com>

All donations are tax deductible.

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