



UNIVERSITYof  
TASMANIA

Tuesday 19 November 2019

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## Symposium to improve health and wellbeing in Launceston

A symposium in Launceston this Wednesday (**20 November**) will bring together health researchers and community workers to share ideas to improve services in Northern Tasmania.

The day-long event is part of the University's State Government-funded Anticipatory Care Project, which is headed by Dr Susan Banks of the Institute for the Study of Social Change.

Dr Banks and her university colleagues are working with community and health service providers to understand how health and wellbeing can be enhanced in four Tasmanian communities, including Launceston's northern suburbs.

Wednesday's event at the Rocherlea Memorial Hall will allow researchers and workers from the University, Launceston City Council, Northern Suburbs Community Centre and Starting Point Neighbourhood House to share their experiences and ways of working.

Speakers include Maria Unwin, who will discuss research on the over-representation of people from Launceston's most disadvantaged communities in non-urgent Emergency Department presentations, and Sarah McCormack from the City of Launceston, whose focus is on the Mowbray Learning Site project. The symposium will also hear from local project workers about their experiences of working with researchers.

Dr Banks said the symposium would be an opportunity to form better links between the people and organisations working in health-related projects in the northern suburbs. "We need to know how best to work with community, who else is active here, and whether we can learn from their approaches," she said.

This event is hosted by the University of Tasmania's [Institute for the Study of Social Change](#), which is part of the College of Arts, Law and Education, and the School of Social Sciences.

Dr Banks is available for interview prior to the event, and media representatives are welcome to drop in during the day. Interviews with participants will be possible during the lunch break, which will run from approximately 12:35 pm to 1:20 pm.

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