

8 DECEMBER 2015

## **SILVER CHAIN PARTNERS WITH WA COUNTRY HEALTH SERVICE TO DELIVER VITAL EMERGENCY TELEHEALTH SERVICE**

Not-for-profit community health and social care provider, Silver Chain, today officially became an Emergency Telehealth Service (ETS) provider, which will improve access to emergency medicine services for the Lancelin community.

ETS is a WA Country Health Service initiative that will allow Silver Chain's nurses to access highly trained, emergency medicine specialists based in Perth using high definition video conferencing equipment installed at Silver Chain's Lancelin Primary Health Centre.

Silver Chain General Manager, Country Services, Carole Bain said the service is significant for the Lancelin community as it means that when nurses are treating patients in emergency situations, emergency medicine specialists who can provide expert advice, are just a call away.

"Historically, people living in regional and remote areas of Western Australia have had limited access to specialist emergency care. ETS is providing more people with access to potentially life-saving emergency medicine support," Ms Bain explained.

"We are very pleased to be the first non-government organisation to be welcomed into the ETS network and we look forward to working in partnership with the WA Country Health Service to provide this important service to the Lancelin community.

"Our Primary Health Centre in Lancelin will be trialing the service for the next 12 months and we are looking forward to working with the WA Country Health Service."

An event was held today at Silver Chain's Lancelin Primary Health Centre, where the service was officially launched by Mr Shane Love MLA, Member for Moore. Hon Martin Aldridge MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region also attended, as well as guests from Silver Chain, the WA Country Health Service as well as the local community.

The Emergency Telehealth Service is delivered by the WA Country Health Service and funded by the State Government's Royalties for Regions half a billion dollar Southern Inland Health Initiative.

For more information about Silver Chain's services in Lancelin, please contact our Contact Centre, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, on 1300 650 803.

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**About The Silver Chain Group**

In September 2011, Silver Chain in Western Australia and RDNS in South Australia, two like-minded not-for-profit organisations, merged to become one of the largest in-home health and care providers in Australia. With over 3000 staff, 400 volunteers, the Group assists over 74,000 people to remain living in their homes and community every year.

The Silver Chain Group's purpose is to build community capacity to optimise health and wellbeing. This is the core of who we are as an organisation, and will help shape the future of in-home community care across Australia.

For more information, please see [www.silverchain.org.au](http://www.silverchain.org.au).