MEDIA RELEASE

Nurse practitioners leading the way

ROAM Communities, a not-for-profit mental health nursing charity, has opened Australia’s first nurse practitioner-led mental health recovery centre in Camden NSW.

Working closely with local general practitioners and psychologists, the centre will focus on collaboration with clients, teaching, health promotion, prevention and empowerment.

Nurse practitioner Toby Raeburn says the centre will offer the services of both a psychiatrist and therapist in one place, describing his work at the centre as “practicing psychiatric assessment, psychotherapy, medication management and social advocacy”.

Professor Ian Hickie of the University of Sydney is the supervising psychiatrist and believes the centre is an extraordinary new initiative. “As a result of their primary care and psychiatry education, these nurse practitioners can offer the Camden community mental health treatment that is comprehensive, holistic and patient-centred”, said Professor Hickie.

ROAM Communities, established in 2005, is a not-for-profit mental health nursing charity dedicated to helping people recover social and emotional wellbeing in the community, avoiding hospitals and homelessness.

The centre, located on the first floor at 125 Argyle Street Camden, officially opened on Thursday 11 October 2012 and was marked by a free BBQ.

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