

CHILD HEALTH A PRIORITY AT PEEL HEALTH CAMPUS

Peel Health Campus has expanded its specialist paediatric services as a result of its success in attracting top medical staff.

Dr Mark Hoetjer, 44, a specialist paediatrician specialising in child asthma, urology, neonatology and child abuse, joined the team at Peel Health Campus late last month after joining the private paediatric practice Mandurah Paediatrics.

The specialist service headed by Dr Michelle Howell provides paediatric services for Peel Health Campus.

Along with Dr Howell, Dr Hoetjer will treat sick children during rounds at Peel Health Campus and will be on-call for emergencies involving children, from newborns through to adolescents.

Dr Hoetjer was working in Amersfoort, the Netherlands, before venturing last year on a three and a half month holiday around Australia with his family.

“We liked Western Australia very much. The coast, beaches and the climate are a real draw card. Perth has been a favourite city of mine since I worked here in 1989 when I was a medical student,” Dr Hoetjer said, a Dawesville resident.

The expansion of the paediatric service at Peel Health Campus comes as the Peel Health Campus Foundation draws closer to reaching its fundraising target to build a children’s ward at the hospital.

There is only \$300,000 left to raise until the Foundation can begin building the \$3 million ward.

Peel Health Campus Foundation executive director Tony Solin said building of the ward would hopefully begin before the middle of next year.

“The Foundation has \$300,000 to raise for completion of this first project and with the continued help of our generous community we will begin the ward early next year,” Mr Solin said.

Dr Hoetjer said Peel was a vibrant, family-friendly region which really did need a dedicated children’s ward.

He said it was remarkable that one community could dig so deep to raise almost all of the money needed to build the ward.

“A new ward will make the service and care for children and their parents much better. Children need a different healing environment to adults,” he said.

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