

StreetDoctor Facts

Imagine..... you are sick, in pain, and feeling down. You need to see a doctor but feel confused, judged and intimidated by mainstream medical services. Where do you go?

StreetDoctor is a welcoming, non-discriminatory, mobile, medical clinic with friendly staff who have been specially chosen for their passion and commitment to improving health outcomes of disadvantaged and homeless people.

- *StreetDoctor* has been in operation since 2001 and is a fully accredited, bulk-billing (no cost to patient) service.
- Consists of a multidisciplinary team of General Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Outreach Workers.
- Similar to a general practice only mobile and the clinic is held in the back of a specially modified vehicle.
- Services over 2,000 people per year and is located for easy access i.e. drop-in centres, soup patrol, etc.
- Provides services for marginalised populations including the homeless, refugees and Aboriginal people in the inner Perth and surrounding areas, Maylands and Midland.
- 40% of *StreetDoctor's* patients are aged under 25 years of age.
- 90% of people presenting to *StreetDoctor* have complex mental health issues.
- 30% of *StreetDoctor's* patients are Aboriginal.
- Assists patients with access to medication.
- For many, it's their first contact with a GP for many, many years.
- The service provides human contact, a sympathetic ear and a hug if needed.
- If *StreetDoctor* cannot deliver a service, patient will be referred on, for example to an After Hours Clinic, hospital etc.
- Major presenting problems include:
 - Ear, nose and throat.
 - Sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
 - Pathology: blood screening and tests (STIs).
 - Respiratory: Asthma.
 - Acute lacerations and wounds.

Our Aim: to improve health outcomes and reduce hospitalisation for disadvantaged people of all ages



Approximately 6,500 people are homeless in Perth every night!