



The Asthma Foundation of Western Australia Inc

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...Helping People Breathe Better...

MEDIA RELEASE

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City of Stirling employees train to save lives

This month staff from City of Stirling Outside School Hours Care programmes took the lead by learning essential life saving skills that may one day prevent an unnecessary asthma death.

The Group Leaders and Supervising Officers completed the Emergency Asthma Management course run by the Asthma Foundation of Western Australia which is a Nationally Accredited Course that provides up to date asthma education, the development of policies and provides practical opportunities to learn Asthma First Aid skills.

Asthma Foundation of Western Australia Education and Training Officer, Trina Lane says "Asthma affects 1 in 9 Australian children. For children aged 0-12 years who attend school and for whom any additional formal care is required, the most common type is before and or after school care (88%). Therefore, it is essential that carers are equipped with the skills to manage an asthma attack."

The Asthma Foundation of WA's mission is to increase the awareness of asthma among the community, with more than 220,000 Western Australians having asthma. All child care centres, sporting clubs and workplaces need to be adequately prepared to be able to administer asthma first aid in an emergency situation.

Ms Lane says "It is essential for carers to be able to recognise signs of worsening asthma and be able to conduct asthma first aid. Sudden severe, life-threatening attacks are not limited to people with severe asthma. All people with asthma are at risk"

Rhonda Kemmers, Children's Development Officer says "With so many families and children using the City of Stirling facilities, staff training and qualifications are of the utmost importance to ensure a safe environment and duty of care. The City of Stirling staff feel confident and ready should an asthma emergency arise and parents can be assured that children attending City of Stirling OSHC centres are provided with the best possible care"

Emergency Asthma Management Courses are available for Childcare centres, sporting clubs and workplaces. The Asthma Foundation provides a variety of other educational programmes and can be contacted on 92893600.

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Media Contact - Education and Training Officer, Trina Lane at the Asthma Foundation of WA 92893646

Photo attached – From left to right Peter Niblett, Supervisor Scarborough ASC and Vacation Care. Tegan Hudson, Senior Playleader at Inglewood After School Care , Rhonda Kemmers, Children's Development Officer.