

## NEWS

# Lunch programs a success

ST LUKE'S has praised the community for supporting a year of culinary gatherings designed to heighten awareness of important social issues.

The Come for Lunch program has been hailed a success by organisers a little more than 12 months after the first informal gathering.

St Luke's senior manager of mental health and housing Yvette Jaczina said after the September event at GPO yesterday she hoped

the events would continue into a second year.

"It is an important part of building an awareness of St Luke's in our community," she said.

"We have lots of stories to tell from the workers on the ground.

"These lunches also give us a chance to connect with people we work with in a different setting."

There was a good attendance at yesterday's event, which focused on the links between homelessness and mental health.

"There were more than 50 people, so it was essentially a full house," said Ms Jaczina.

"It was certainly a great opportunity to talk to people about homelessness and mental illness and how important some choices are for people," she said.

Upcoming events include St Luke's Day on October 18 and the Come for Lunch Problem Gambling and the Impacts on our community event on October 29.

For more information visit the St Luke's website or phone 5444 8100.



RELAXED: Yvette Jaczina, Sharlene Bennett and Chris Jackson.