



The 26TEN health literacy supporters network

Health literacy is important for improving health outcomes and reducing health inequalities. The issues are complex so we are taking a long-term coordinated approach that involves the whole community. 26TEN, Tasmania's campaign for adult literacy, is the banner under which we can all pull together to make a difference.

Together we:

- recognise that literacy and numeracy are foundational skills that can support health literacy;
- know the issues that affect our health are complex and the contributing factors are many so we have to take a long-term coordinated approach that involves the whole community;
- appreciate how 26TEN connects and links across our communities (health, education, business);
- can work together to raise awareness of literacy and health literacy issues;
- will be able to provide concrete tools to people and service providers to respond to identified needs;
- share the same goal to achieve clear communication;
- are aware of the positive ripple effect that happens when one person or service provider improves their literacy and health literacy and how this spreads across families, community and workplaces – so together, we have a great opportunity to make a real difference to the health of all Tasmanians.

By forming the 26TEN health literacy supporters' network, people with an interest in literacy and health literacy will:

- raise public awareness
- engage people in health literacy and literacy activities
- advocate for the implementation of health literacy principles and practices within the health care system
- foster links between supporters that facilitate collaboration.

Where to find out more

For more information visit the Department of Health and Human Services website at: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth/health_literacy or email health.literacy@dhhs.tas.gov.au.

Literacy and numeracy are the foundation of good health literacy. If you have any queries about adult literacy in Tasmania contact 26TEN at email@26ten.tas.gov.au or visit the website www.26ten.tas.gov.au.