## **MEDIA RELEASE**

2 July 2025



## ADA NSW SAYS \$37.5 MILLION BOOST FOR MOBILE DENTAL VAN PROGRAM A VITAL STEP FOR ORAL HEALTH

The Australian Dental Association NSW Branch (ADA NSW) has welcomed the NSW Government's announcement of a \$37.5 million investment into the NSW Health Mobile Dental Van Program, calling it a vital step toward improving access to oral healthcare for regional, remote, and underserved communities.

"This regional health focused commitment handed down in the recent 2025-26 NSW State Budget is a significant and welcome commitment from the NSW Government," said **Dr Dominic** Aouad, President of ADA NSW.

"For many patients in rural and remote areas, government funded mobile dental vans can be the only practical option for accessing regular, affordable and timely dental care. This funding will go a long way to expanding those services and keeping them sustainable as demand continues to grow.

"Also for eligible patients up to the age of 17, some can also access the Federally funded CDBS, further assisting with the cost of oral health treatments."

The ADA NSW support the NSW Government funded mobile dental vans to help deliver essential services like check-ups, preventive care, and treatment to people who might otherwise miss out. This includes people in regional communities, First Nations people, disadvantaged children and communities with a high-risk of dental disease.

Dr Aouad emphasised the broader health benefits of increased dental access. ADA NSW also welcomed the Government's recognition that dental care must be part of the broader healthcare conversation.

"Oral health is not separate from overall health. Preventive dental care and early intervention help reduce avoidable hospitalisations, support better nutrition, and contribute to managing chronic conditions like diabetes," Dr Aouad said.

"This latest funding by the Minns government is an investment that will improve the oral health of thousands of patients in regional and remote areas of the state."

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About ADA NSW: ADA NSW is the peak professional association for dentists and dental students in NSW and the ACT with 4,400 members, representing 70 per cent of dentists. ADA NSW has been supporting dentists and promoting good oral health in the community since 1929.

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