

**FREMANTLE WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTRE — INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
CELEBRATIONS**

Statement by Member for Fremantle

MS S.F. MCGURK (Fremantle) [12.51 pm]: On Monday, 9 March, I was very happy to attend a multicultural lunch and entertainment for the International Women's Day celebrations held at the Fremantle Women's Health Centre. The celebration included dancing by the Free Spirit Dance Company, food from a variety of cultures, and a speech by a representative from BreastScreen WA. It was a great opportunity for women from a range of backgrounds to get together, to meet other women and to mix socially with some of the health professionals by whom they have been very ably serviced at the centre. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of the Fremantle Women's Health Centre, a great community resource that offers a range of services by doctors, nurses, counsellors and health educators. Services are offered not only at the centre's South Street building, but, increasingly, outreach work is being done by the centre throughout the south metropolitan area that it services. Although all women are welcome, the work of the centre targets the needs of women with the highest risk of poor health, who are often very difficult for health care practitioners to access, such as Indigenous women, young women, culturally and linguistically diverse women, women with young children, women with mental health issues, older women, women with a disability, and carers. The number of women accessing services through the centre is worth noting. In 2013–14, 135 clients accessed counselling services, 103 clients accessed perinatal counselling, just under 1 500 clients accessed medical practitioners, and just over 1 000 clients accessed important clinical nurse services, such as nurses' pap smear clinics.