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Strong bond reunites past and present Waitakere Hospital staff

Past and present staff from the Wainamu Ward at Waitakere Hospital met for their first-ever reunion on September 28. It's been nine years since the ward opened and attendees came from as far away as the US to celebrate.

"We were strangers back then," said one of the organisers, Suja Varghese. "But we quickly learned to take care of each other as well as our patients. We've all supported each other since day one and become great friends."

Caption 1: Old friends reunite to celebrate a shared working life on Waitakere Hospital's Wainamu Ward

Caption 2: I-r. Megan Jones (Te Atatu South) and Ora Murray (West Harbour)

Caption 3: I-r. Trenna Wilkinson (Waimauku), Talia Sanders (Kumeu), Moira Ware (Glen Eden)

Caption 4: I-r Cynthia Faustino (Pennsylvania), Pattanan Wongdee (Tasmania), Maggie Leong (Massey)

Caption 5: I-r. Anita Ijsseldijk (Ranui) , Shona Colebrook (Henderson), Suja Varghese (Henderson)

Caption 6: Suja Varghese, sixth from left, says she and her workmates formed life-long friendships when they first met on the newly-opened Waitakere Hospital Wainamu Ward in 2008.