

01 May 2017

Nominate now to recognise excellence in Australia's community sector

Recognise those making exceptional contributions to social justice in Australia by nominating them for the 2017 HESTA Community Sector Awards.

Presented by HESTA in partnership with the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), the national Awards recognise excellence in service provision, advocacy and leadership in the community sector.

Anyone can nominate an individual or organisation working in the community sector, with nominations closing on 4 August 2017.

HESTA CEO, Debby Blakey, said the Awards are an opportunity to recognise the invaluable impact those working in the community sector have in building stronger, more inclusive communities across Australia.

"The Awards are an opportunity to provide recognition to the outstanding individuals and organisations whose work enhances the wellbeing of individuals and communities in Australia," Ms Blakey said.

"Their vital work provides invaluable support to people who are often experiencing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination, we are proud to be able to recognise them."

ME – the bank for you – are a longstanding Awards sponsor, generously providing a \$30,000 prize pool, to be divided among the winners in three award categories — **Unsung Hero, Outstanding Organisation** and **Social Impact**.

Winners will receive \$10,000 in a **ME** Everyday Transaction account towards further education or team development.

The 2016 winners were:

Unsung Hero Award

Anne Mitchell
Concern Australia
Melbourne, VIC

Anne was recognised for leading the Steps Outreach Service, a program of Concern Australia, providing support and advocacy to young homeless people.

Outstanding Organisation Award

Arts Project Australia
Northcote, VIC

Awarded for supporting artists with an intellectual disability by providing them sustained and individualised pathways into the professional visual arts.

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Social Impact Award

Women with Disabilities Victoria Melbourne, VIC

Women with Disabilities Victoria (WDV) was recognised for their contribution to government policies aimed at achieving greater social justice and change for women with disabilities in Victoria.

The 2017 Finalists will be announced in September and interstate finalists will be flown to Melbourne for the awards dinner on 24 October 2017.

Submit an online nomination today at hestaawards.com.au.

Ends.

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