

10 July 2018

## HESTA announces national aged care awards finalists

Australia's most dedicated and innovative aged care organisations, teams and individuals have been recognised, with 13 finalists announced in the 2018 HESTA Aged Care Awards.

The Awards recognise those in the aged care sector who have made an exceptional contribution to improving the quality of life for older Australians across three Award categories —Team Innovation, Outstanding Organisation and Individual Distinction.

HESTA CEO Debby Blakey, said this year's finalists were selected for their outstanding leadership and innovation in improving services and standards of care in the aged care sector.

"These finalists have developed innovative solutions and programs to overcome industry-wide challenges and all share an unwavering commitment to delivering the highest quality care to ageing Australians," Ms Blakey said.

"It's an honour to highlight the amazing work of these teams, organisations and individuals, who are improving the quality of life of Australians in their homes, retirement villages and aged care facilities across Australia."

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

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

### The 2018 finalists are:

#### Team Innovation

##### **Geriatric Flying Squad Uniting War Memorial Hospital Waverly, NSW**

Recognised for partnering with local ambulance services and local police to develop a patient referral pathway that identifies older people at risk who may otherwise end up unnecessarily in the emergency department.

##### **Hero's Wish Vasey RSL Care Hawthorn, VIC**

Recognised for developing 'Hero's Wish' a program that helps fulfil the wishes and dreams of their war veteran and ex-service residents.

##### **Meeting Centre Support Program 3Bridges Community Limited Carss Park, NSW**

Recognised for piloting the 'Meeting Centre Support Program,' a Dutch, evidence-based initiative that provides person-centred, comprehensive and integrated program support to people with mild to moderate dementia and their family members, enabling them to adjust and to cope with the condition.

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## **Outstanding Organisation**

### **Ridleyton Greek Home for the Aged Adelaide, SA**

Recognised for collaborating with disability service providers including Equals International, to develop an internal program that trains and employs people with intellectual disabilities.

### **STAR Community Services Cleveland, QLD**

Recognising that loneliness and social isolation can have a detrimental impact on the well-being of ageing Australians, STAR Community Services are recognised for its programs that promote social and community participation for its patrons.

### **The Whiddon Group Glenfield, NSW**

Recognised for developing a number of innovative programs that focus on improving the well-being of aged care residents through relationship-based care, creative ageing and social connection.

### **Wintringham Flemington, VIC**

Recognised for contributing to the social justice of ageing Australians experiencing homelessness for 30 years, through community outreach, housing support, housing, aged care and referral services.

## **Individual Distinction**

### **Annette Nuck Yackandandah Health Yackandandah, VIC**

Recognised for her outstanding leadership in the development of an intergenerational aged care model in a small, progressive Victorian country town.

### **Jason Bragg Opal Aged Care Denhams Beach, NSW**

Recognised for his outstanding contribution towards improving the care and well-being of aged care residents.

### **Keith Cameron Smith McKenzie Aged Care Group Varsity Lakes, QLD**

Recognising that death and grief are common realities for family members and aged care staff, Keith is recognised for developing a number of initiatives to help people grieve and say goodbye to aged care residents who have passed away.

**Leanne Shannon**  
**Northern Health Bundoora**  
**Bundoora, VIC**

Recognised for implementing a range of strategies to improve the safety and welfare of high-risk dementia patients on her ward and the team that are caring for them.

**Leanne Smart**  
**Royal Hobart Hospital**  
**Hobart, TAS**

Recognised for implementing a range of assessments designed to improve the care of patients with cognitive impairments like delirium and dementia.

**Yulunda Matau**  
**Amana Living James Brown Care Centre**  
**Osborne Park, WA**

Recognised for driving the cultural and business transformation of an Amana Living residential aged care home, the James Brown Care Centre.

Winners will be announced at the 2018 HESTA Aged Care Awards on 9 August 2018 in Canberra.

Find out more about the HESTA Awards Program [hestaawards.com.au](http://hestaawards.com.au).

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