

11 April 2017

## HESTA national nursing and midwifery award finalists announced

Australia's most outstanding nurses, midwives and teams have been recognised, with 12 finalists announced for the 2017 HESTA Australian Nursing & Midwifery Awards.

In its 11th year, the annual Awards recognise the outstanding contribution of graduates, individuals and teams for their professionalism, innovation and care across a range of health settings.

HESTA CEO, Debby Blakey, said the finalists were selected from an exceptional field of nominations, demonstrating the highest standards of care, ongoing commitment and innovative practices provided by nurses, midwives and their teams.

"With such an outstanding calibre of nominations received, it was a difficult task for the judges to shortlist finalists. We're honoured to help provide national recognition to these amazing individuals and teams across Australia" Ms Blakey said.

"This year's finalists demonstrate the profound impact individuals and teams have on the communities they operate in and the patients they care for. Their dedication to providing outstanding patient care and implementing innovative initiatives that result in improvements in clinical practice and patient care is inspiring."

### The 2017 finalists are:

#### Nurse or Midwife of the Year

**Louise Beer**  
**Macedon Ranges Health**  
**Gisborne, VIC**

Working as a Community Health Nurse, Louise significantly contributed to the improvement and establishment of adolescent mental, sexual and physical health services provided in the Macedon Ranges region.

**Sarah Brown**  
**Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation (Western Desert Dialysis)**  
**Gillen, NT**

For establishing the Alice Springs-based Western Desert Dialysis to provide social support services, allied health and 'on-country' dialysis services for Aboriginal people experiencing kidney disease that live in remote communities in central Australia.

**Angela Langdon**  
**St John of God Ballarat Hospital**  
**Ballarat, VIC**

For her innovative direction and leadership as a Nurse Unit Manager, which significantly improved staff satisfaction and patient care outcomes within the medical cardiology ward.

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**Bernie Maynard**  
**The Lake Munmorah Doctors' Surgery**  
**Lake Munmorah, NSW**

For her dedication to improving the health outcomes of patients with diabetes at her clinic through training to become a Credentialed Diabetes's Educator and establishing education clinics to support patients.

**Andrea Mirielle Mitchell**  
**Queensland Health North West Hospital and Health Service, Maternity Services**  
**Mount Isa, QLD**

For her commitment and care as an Outreach Caseload Midwife, which involved travelling great distances to provide Aboriginal women in the remote Indigenous Doomadgee and Mornington Island communities with antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care.

**Outstanding Graduate**

**Kerry Georgiou**  
**Monash Health**  
**Clayton, VIC**

For her outstanding leadership when completing her nursing graduate year and for her instrumental role in improving the quality of the Monash Health graduate program.

**Rebecca Rich**  
**Perth Clinic**  
**West Perth, WA**

For her commitment to achieving patient-centred care in mental health nursing that has achieved improved health outcomes for patients and proactively taking part in formal and informal education to improve her skills.

**Angela Smith-Carroll**  
**Peninsula Private Hospital**  
**Frankston, VIC**

For using her initiative to develop and research an Oncology Handbook that has become a learning resource and educational tool for Graduate Nurses at the Peninsula Private Hospital.

**Team Excellence**

**Gladstone Palliative Care Team**  
**Gladstone Hospital**  
**Gladstone, QLD**

Recognised for enabling the early transition of patients to home palliative care by providing necessary equipment that's given families and their loved ones greater flexibility and choice around the types of care options available in the final stages of life.

**Memory Wellness**  
**integratedliving Australia**  
**Muswellbrook, NSW**

For developing the innovative 'Memory Wellness' eHealth program, which promotes the early intervention and management of dementia.

**The Mater (Sydney) Pre-admission Midwife Appointment Program**  
**The Mater Hospital**  
**North Sydney, NSW**

For implementing and developing the 'Pre-admission Midwife Appointment Program' that supports women in the third trimester of their pregnancies.

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**2 West Nursing Unit  
St John of God Ballarat Hospital  
Ballarat, VIC**

For establishing evidence-based initiatives that led to the significant improvement in employee satisfaction and patient-care outcomes within the ward.

Proud Awards sponsor **ME** – the bank for you, provides the \$30,000 prize pool, to be divided among the winners in the three award categories — **Nurse or Midwife of the Year, Outstanding Graduate and Team Excellence.**

Each winner will receive \$10,000 in a **ME** Everyday Transaction account to use for further education or team development.

Winners will be announced at the 2017 HESTA Australian Nursing & Midwifery Awards dinner in Brisbane on May 10 2017.

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