

12 January 2018

## The search is on for Australia's most outstanding nurses & midwives

If you know a nurse or midwife who deserves recognition, now is the time to nominate them for the 2018 HESTA Australian Nursing and Midwifery Awards.

The Awards recognise nurses, midwives, nurse educators and researchers as well as personal care workers for their outstanding performance and achievements in providing exceptional care and leading the way for improvements across a range of health settings.

Nominations for the Awards are being sought from colleagues, patients and employers and are open until 23 February 2018.

HESTA CEO, Debby Blakey said in its 12<sup>th</sup> year the national awards are an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the amazing work of nursing and midwifery professionals.

"For over a decade the Awards have highlighted the profound impact nursing and midwifery individuals and teams have on their communities and the patients they care for. The Awards are an opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of these outstanding professionals who go above and beyond to provide exceptional patient care," Ms Blakey said.

"Submitting a nomination is an opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of individuals and teams working in nursing or midwifery who have demonstrated leadership, innovation and pursued excellence to deliver positive care outcomes for Australians."

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 — **Nurse or Midwife of the Year**, **Outstanding Graduate** and **Team Excellence**.

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

### The 2017 winners were:

#### Nurse or Midwife of the Year

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

Sarah was awarded 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 in the Northern Territory.

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## **Outstanding Graduate**

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

Rebecca was awarded for her commitment to achieving patient-centred care in mental health nursing. As a graduate she proactively took part in formal and informal education to improve her skills, applying her learning to improve outcomes for mental health patients.

## **Team Excellence**

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

Awarded for implementing and developing the 'Pre-admission Midwife Appointment Program' which provides holistic multi-disciplinary care to women in the third trimester of their pregnancies.

The 2018 finalists will be announced on 10 April 2018 and interstate finalists will be flown to Melbourne for the Awards dinner on 10 May 2018.

To submit a nomination visit [hestawards.com.au](http://hestawards.com.au).

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