



THE HON JUSTINE ELLIOT MP

Minister for Ageing

MEDIA RELEASE

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2009 Minister's Awards for Excellence In Aged Care – Recognising and Honouring Best Practice in Aged Care

Minister for Ageing, Justine Elliot announced the recipients of the 2009 Minister's Awards for Excellence in Aged Care at HammondCare's Southwood facility in Sydney's south west today.

The awards recognise best practice and innovation in residential and community aged care.

Minister Elliot said: "We have first class aged care facilities in Australia. The innovation and dedication of aged care providers and their employees to continually seek new and creative ways to provide even better care is commended.

"The Minister's Awards for Excellence recognise aged care staff and providers who provide exemplarily care to older Australians.

"Nurses, personal carers and allied health workers are the backbone of Australia's aged and community care system. It is important that their efforts are recognised and applauded," Minister Elliot said.

Minister Elliot announced that HammondCare Southwood was awarded the 2009 award for 'Innovation in Staff Recruitment and Retention' in the residential category.

The award recognises the innovative and effective staff recruitment, orientation and training strategies to support delivery of a new dementia care service model.

HammondCare's recruitment and retention program has resulted in a 95 per cent staff retention rate since October 2007. The retention of an experienced and highly skilled workforce has resulted in better care for residents.

The 2009 Minister's Awards for Excellence recognised excellence in the categories of:

- Innovation in Staff Recruitment and Retention;
- Excellence in Training and Staff Development;
- Innovation in Information Technology;
- Leadership and Achievement; and
- Achievement in Service Provision in a Regional, Rural or Remote Area.

"The nominees and recipients in these highly competitive awards display a passion and commitment to care," Minister Elliot said.

The 2009 awards were open to a wider range of individuals and organisations than in previous years, including Australian Government subsidised nursing homes and hostels, Community Aged Care package providers, Extended Aged Care at Home providers, Home and Community Care aged care providers and National Respite Care Program providers.

The nominees were judged by panel comprising:

- Di Lawson, former CEO, Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council;
- Greg Mundy, CEO, Aged and Community Services Australia; and
- Fiona Nicholls, Assistant Secretary, Quality Policy and Programs Branch, Department of Health and Ageing.

“I would like to acknowledge the time and effort that the judges contributed in assessing the highly competitive nominations,” Minister Elliot.

A complete list of the 2009 award recipients is below.

For more information, contact Mrs Elliot's office on (02) 6277 7280

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Innovation in Staff Recruitment and Retention

Category Winner - Community:
United Protestant Association of NSW CCP Tweed Shire NSW

Category Winner - Residential:
Hammond Care Southwood
Hammondville, NSW

Highly Commended:
City of Greater Dandenong
Home and Community Care Provider, Springvale, VIC

Goodwin Aged Care Services
Residential Aged Care Provider, Farrer, ACT

Excellence in Training and Staff Development

Category Winner - Community:
Royal District Nursing Service
Home and Community Care Provider, St Kilda, VIC

Category Winner - Residential:
Goodwin Aged Care Services
Farrer, ACT

Highly Commended:
Brightwater Care Group Inc
Osborne Park, WA

Innovation in Information Technology

Category Winner - Community:
Royal District Nursing Service South Australia Inc
Home and Community Care Provider, Wayville, SA

Category Winner - Residential:
Samarinda Aged Services
Samarinda Lodge, Ashburton, VIC

Highly Commended:
Feros Care Limited
Community Care, Coolangatta, QLD

Royal District Nursing Service
Home & Community Care Provider, St Kilda, VIC

Western District Health Service
Residential Care Provider, Hamilton, VIC

INDIVIDUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Leadership and Achievement

Category Winner – Community, Service Leadership:
Mrs Noreen Boehm – Manager, Boggabri HACC Multi Service Outlet, Boggabri, NSW

Category Winner – Community, Organisational Leadership:
Ms Prudence Sky – Chief Executive Officer, Northern Beaches Community Care Packages,
Mona Vale, NSW

Category Winner – Residential, Service Leadership:
Ms Zoe Caspar, Jean Turner Nursing Home, Rosebud, VIC

Category Winner – Residential, Organisational Leadership:
Mrs Carolyn Kwok – Deputy Chief Executive Officer, RSL Lifecare, Residential Provider,
Narrabeen, NSW

Highly Commended:
Ms Jaklina Michael
Royal District Nursing Service, Home and Community Care Provider, St Kilda, VIC

Mrs Annette Chandler
Cooee Lodge, Residential Provider, Gilgandra, NSW

Achievement in Service Provision in a Regional, Rural or Remote Area

Category Winner – Community:
Ms Edna Snape, Anmatjere Flexible Aged Care Service, Ti Tree, NT

Category Winner – Residential:
Mrs Kim Meale, Sunhaven Hostel, Ashford, NSW

Highly Commended:
Mrs Christine Bennett, Swan Hill Rural City Council, Community Care Provider, Swan Hill,
VIC

Ms Cherie Nichols, Mobile Overnight Respite Program, Coconut Grove, NT

Ms Debbie Rivers, D & R Community Services Pty Ltd, Residential Care Provider, Cairns,
QLD