
MEDIA RELEASE

2 March 2017

WA Mental Health Award categories announced and nominations open

NOMINATIONS for the Western Australian Mental Health Awards 2017 are open with eight categories representing the diversity of mental health practice in WA.

In a first for the state, the WA Mental Health Awards will also recognise excellence in journalism and reporting on mental health, with the News Media Award.

WA's peak body for mental health, WA Association for Mental Health chief executive officer Rod Astbury said the awards had been one of the biggest additions to the second WA Mental Health Conference line-up.

"Since the discontinuation of the Good Outcomes Awards after 2015, the mental health sector has had no formal awards of this nature," Mr Astbury said.

"To fill this gap, the WA Mental Health Conference and Awards 2017 - with the support of the Mental Health Commission - will include the launch of a new, sector-owned award series, celebrating the achievements of individuals, organisations and groups that have made an outstanding contribution to mental health in WA.

"By making an award nomination, you help to share some amazing success stories and encourage the pursuit of excellence across the mental health sector."

Award categories include: The Impact & Inspiration Award presented by Neami National; The Wellbeing Award presented by Wanslea Family Services; The Diversity Award; The Innovation Award presented by WA Primary Health Alliance; The Mental Health Employee Excellence Award; The Mentally Healthy Workplace Award; The Family Centred Care Award presented by Helping Minds; and The Mental Health News Media Award.

The awards aim to recognise and reward the achievements of those who demonstrate excellence, innovation and initiative in supporting consumers of mental health services, their families, carers and support people; showcase achievements in WA's mental health sector; inspire others and promote positive mental health.

The nomination and selection process is now open until 12 May 2017, with nominees announced in June and winners awarded at the conference Gala Dinner on 13 July.

All finalists will receive a free ticket to attend the awards ceremony and a certificate.

Peak body representing the community-based mental health sector in WA.

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To discover more about the WA Mental Health Awards criteria, visit:
<http://waamh.org.au/awards>

Sponsorship opportunities are still open for some award categories, including the News Media Award category: <https://waamh.org.au/wa-mental-health-conference-and-awards-2017/wa-mental-health-awards/award-sponsors.aspx>

To discuss nomination details for the Media Awards in more detail or to apply for a free media pass to cover the conference and awards, please contact WA Association for Mental Health public relations manager Brooke Johns on 6246 3000 or BJohns@waamh.org.au

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