Minister for Health Robyn Lambley has congratulated the 12 award recipients in this year’s Northern Territory Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards.

“Tonight we acknowledged 130 nominees and 34 finalists for excellence in 11 categories of nursing and midwifery practice,” Mrs Lambley said.

“This almost doubles the amount of entries from last year – and I’m also very pleased to see that a quarter of the entrants are from Central Australia.

“Nurses and Midwives care for people at their most vulnerable and at some of the most memorable events in their lives.

“Most of the time nurses and midwives just get on with it, and are quietly appreciated by the people they care for and the health services they work in.

“This is the 11th Year of the Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards and it is wonderful to acknowledge the work of both individuals and all nurses and midwives across the Territory.

“Some of the achievements celebrated this year ranged from individual acts of compassion to initiating system-wide changes in nursing and midwifery practice.

“Other award entrants and recipients have also helped to establish services that have improved the health and wellbeing of entire communities.

“Special mention goes to Nurse/Midwife of the Year, Tina White, a midwife in the East Arnhem Region held in high regard by colleagues and patients alike.

“Tina has shown professionalism, competence, commitment and compassion in her care of mothers and babies and she has been embraced by the Yolngu community.

“The inaugural Administrator’s Medal for Lifetime Achievement was presented to Elaine McArthur, a midwife from Katherine who has spent more than 30 years working with women and families in the region.

“Lesley Scott from the Centre for Disease Control in Darwin has received the award for education, research and innovation based on her 30 years of work. Lesley has been recognised for developing novel, innovative and sustainable solutions and in any critical situation, such as the recent measles outbreak.

“Alice Springs Hospital Mental Health Unit nurse Clancy Tucker was chosen as the Graduate Nurse of the Year, and was recognised for his enthusiasm to further his career goals, and taking time to help fellow new graduates.

“The award for Excellence in Remote Area Nursing was awarded to Martina Grimshaw who has been working at Minjilang on Croker Island for the past 8 years.

“Martina is an exceptional nurse who has directly impacted on the health of the Croker Island people as shown by the community’s increasing engagement in health programs, especially among women and children.

“I congratulate all of tonight’s winners and nominees for their ongoing hard work.”
A list of award recipients is attached.

**Media Contact:**
Phoebe Stewart 0438 885 774 or (08) 8928 6649