2016 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards

Diana Baseley – 2016 Nurse/Midwife of the Year (Alice Springs)
Recipient: Excellence in Nursing/Midwifery Leadership
Sponsored by Flinders University
Diana Baseley’s history with Alice Springs Hospital started in 1987. Since this time, she has gained several qualifications – one of which was her Midwifery certificate. It is in this area that Diana has demonstrated strong leadership. Commencing with improving Midwifery services within the Alice Springs Hospital, her influence extends to multiple forums and committees that go beyond the hospital and government services. In enacting her leadership roles, Diana has had a marked impact on staff job satisfaction and morale, as well as linking remote women to the Alice Springs Hospital midwifery services. In doing so she has gained wide respect and is an excellent role model for other Midwives and Nurses.

NT Administrator’s Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Nursing and/or Midwifery – Sandra McElligott (Alice Springs)
Presented by His Honour the Honourable John Hardy and sponsored by Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (NT Branch)
Sandra McElligott’s strong advocacy for women’s health needs have increased awareness and understanding amongst Northern Territory health care professionals, clients, students and communities. She is an advocate for primary health care, facilitating local Aboriginal women to develop culturally appropriate resources for communities and health care professionals in areas such as domestic violence, sexual abuse, breast feeding and family health promotion. Sandy was instrumental with implementing the Women’s Health on Wheels mobile clinic, which has been an invaluable asset in the uptake of women’s health checks in Central Australia. She supports health care professionals from across the disciplines, providing expert teaching, advice and professional development in the area of women’s health. Sandy has given more than two decades of outstanding service to the women of Central Australia and continues to provide a culturally safe and effective service for her clients. She has received national recognition for her exceptional achievements and is a worthy recipient of the NT Administrator’s Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Nursing/Midwifery Award.

1st Year Graduate Nurse/Midwife of the Year – Ingrid Potgieter (Alice Springs)
Sponsored by the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre
Ingrid Potgieter joined the Alice Springs Hospital Graduate Nurse Program in 2015. She has demonstrated exceptional practice during the program, with outstanding feedback provided from her peers and supervisors for her dedicated patient focus and advocacy, along with her commitment to ongoing learning and research, an example of which is the collection of data for clinical trials. Ingrid presented to students and employers on her unique experiences in Central Australia and the challenges with providing patient-centred care, whilst remaining resilient as a new nurse. She highlighted that Closing the Gap theory lectures did not adequately describe the reality of nursing within the gap. Ingrid has a vision for improving rural and remote Indigenous health and is volunteering for field work in the Trachoma project in Central Australia. She is now employed on Medical West at the Alice Springs Hospital where she has made an outstanding start in nursing.
Excellence in Aged, Disability and Residential Nursing – Rosemary Jeffery (Alice Springs)

*Sponsored by HESTA and Australian Association of Gerontology*

Rosemary Jeffery has been an inspiration and role model in the Northern Territory aged-care sector for more than 30 years. As the Director of Nursing at Frontier Services she was instrumental in developing the professional training program for aged-care staff. Later, as Manager of Residential Care for Frontier Services, she was responsible for 12 residential aged-care services across the Northern Territory and into Western Australia. Rosemary has always placed residents at the forefront, providing excellent leadership. She has a wealth of experience in understanding the unique challenges associated with providing aged-care in a remote setting. Following her retirement from Frontier Services, Rosemary joined Alzheimer’s Australia NT where she worked on a project to build dementia-friendly communities. She is a well-known, well respected professional and a worthy winner of Excellence in Aged, Disability and Residential Nursing Award.

Excellence in Nursing/Midwifery Education, Research and Innovation – Gina Majid (Darwin)

*Sponsored by Charles Darwin University School of Health*

Gina Majid started her nursing career as a new Graduate Nurse at Royal Darwin Hospital in 2003. She worked in paediatric wards and soon became a senior nurse in isolation paediatrics. In 2012, having already completed her own postgraduate studies, she took on the role of supporting nurses to return to tertiary studies. Her unique blend of skills helped produce a significant increase in the number of nurses with postgraduate qualifications. In 2015 Gina became instrumental in developing a postgraduate paediatric course at Charles Darwin University and has been the driving force for all Royal Darwin Hospital nurses completing competency-based assessments within paediatrics. In addition to this outstanding contribution to paediatric nursing, she has been the lead researcher in several projects designed to improve paediatric nursing care and staff engagement.

Excellence in Enrolled Nursing – Kay Stevens (Darwin)

*Sponsored by Fox Education and Consultancy*

Kay Stevens is highly respected and endorsed by her peers as an enrolled nurse, demonstrating professionalism, competence, commitment and compassion in the areas of Rehabilitation, Continence Promotion and Management. She builds positive relationships with staff, patients and families and strives to get the best outcomes, engaging clients with the health service, collaborating with staff in the hospital, demonstrating exceptional practice assessment, along with planning and provision of care for Rehabilitation with continence issues. Kay is always keen to pass on her skills, knowledge and professional vision. From a broader professional perspective, she plays an active role in a number of professional associations. Kay was nominated by her colleague in recognition of the significant contribution she has made in the area of Rehabilitation, especially taking the lead in continence management and other roles within the ward and does this with great passion.
Excellence in Nursing/Midwifery Hospital Care – Lea Davidson (Alice Springs)
Sponsored by HESTA
Lea Davidson is the Clinical Nurse Consultant for Preventable Chronic Disease at the Alice Springs Hospital. She has been in the position for the past five years and is passionate about empowering clients to self-manage their chronic conditions. Lea works in partnership with hospital staff, primary care providers and social services to ensure clients are able to access appropriate services. Her advocacy, passion and commitment have made significant inroads to providing robust care pathways for this client group, thereby improving health outcomes and reducing hospital admissions.

Excellence in Alcohol & Other Drugs Nursing – Kim Meighan (Nhulunbuy)
Sponsored by Drug and Alcohol Nurses Australasia (DANA)
Kim Meighan commenced working in Gove in 2012 as the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) withdrawal Clinical Nurse Consultant at the rehabilitation centre. During this time she has provided valuable service in the AOD areas, as well as the broader community. Currently Kim works as the lone withdrawal Clinical Nurse Consultant, offering a vital and professional service to the residents of the East Arnhem area. She is also actively involved in a number of AOD related committees. Kim occasionally works as a relief nurse in the Gove Hospital Emergency Department and is a volunteer with Operation Smile, assisting children with facial deformities from developing countries to receive surgery and care. She is an active member of the local community and through the women’s AFL she works to promote positive lifestyle choices for young Indigenous females.

Excellence in Mental Health Nursing – Kym Richardson (Darwin)
Sponsored by Northern Territory PHN and Australian College of Mental Health Nurses
Kym Richardson works as the team manager within the newly established Mental Health Access Team. She was nominated for the quality improvement activities she has undertaken that have had a positive impact upon patient care. Most notable of the quality improvement activities was the introduction of metabolic screening tests for mental health clients – the training of staff to undertake the screening and development of associated policy frameworks. This quality improvement will enhance the physical health care of mental health patients, as well as providing an innovative and efficient service.

Excellence in Midwifery – Katie Michell (Yulara)
Sponsored by Australian College of Midwives (NT Branch)
Katie Michell is a Midwife and Women’s Health Nurse at the Yulara Clinic in Central Australia. She has demonstrated outstanding practice in areas that include remote midwifery, teaching, women’s health and addressing the needs and importance of working with Aboriginal women across the lifespan. Katie has been working in Central Australia since 2007 and has provided invaluable support to remote area nurses and midwives, as well as Aboriginal Health Practitioners. She has been instrumental in setting up the ‘Keeping Grandmothers Strong and Culture Alive’ program to improve long-term outcomes and implemented the BreastScreen Clinics in 2014 across remote areas.
Excellence in Nursing/Midwifery Community Health – Emma Louise Corcoran (Alice Springs)

**Sponsored by Double Tree by Hilton**

Emma Corcoran has been exceptionally active in the community health nursing area since arriving in Alice Springs in 1998. Her commitment to improving the health at a community level has seen her lead programs to increase health activities, initially under the banner of Active NT and now as a foundation member of the ‘Active in Alice’ group. Nominated by an Alice Springs community organisation, she is highly valued for her skills to motivate and engage people. Success with inspiring community groups such as the Alpurrurulam Healthy Lifestyle Committee resulted in the production of a DVD on Healthy Skin. In her clinical work as a palliative care and community nurse, Emma is acknowledged as an exceptional nurse and an excellent team player by her colleagues and is also highly respected by clients. Her advocacy for clients is far-reaching and has directly led to the Alice Springs Town Council funding and delivery of an exercise program specifically designed for people with chronic lung conditions. This award recognises her commitment to excellence in community health.

Excellence in Remote Health Nursing/Midwifery – E. Ann Sanotti (Nyrippi)

**Sponsored by Centre for Remote Nursing/Midwifery provided by CRANAPlus**

Ann Sanotti commenced work in the Northern Territory hospital system in 1994 and moved into Remote Health in 2005 as a Primary Health Care nurse and midwife. Since 2006, she has been the Primary Health Care Manager at Nyrippi, where she is well respected by her peers, managers and other colleagues. Ann’s strengths are in her supportive teamwork, very readily sharing her skills and knowledge. In addition to providing acute care and emergency services, Ann is a champion in chronic disease prevention through initiatives such as young women’s diabetes camp and setting up a local gymnasium, successfully obtaining a grant for equipment. She has successfully attended two recent births on community and is a strong supporter of palliative care ‘on country’. Anne is a strong patient advocate who is highly respected by community members.