



Aged & Community Services
SA & NT Inc

Media Release – 16 June 2011

State & Territory aged care leaders awarded

Learning a local indigenous language to help her better understand clients in East Arnhem Land is just one way Stephanie Charlesworth, from the Northern Territory Dementia Behaviour Management Advisory Service, seeks to improve outcomes for her clients. Around 160 colleagues and supporters cheered as Stephanie received the Employee Award for her dedication at the Aged & Community Services SA & NT Awards for Excellence. Stephanie was one of seven winners honoured for their outstanding service to the aged care industry.

The annual event, celebrated with a cocktail party last night, recognises the achievements of aged care professionals, providers and organisations that care for older South Australians and Northern Territorians.

Volunteer Barbara Griffin received uproarious applause when she won the Volunteer Award. Barbara has proudly managed the coffee shop at James Brown Memorial Trust's Kalyra Belair facility for the past 24 years. The efforts of Barbara and her team of volunteers have enabled the facility to purchase a range of buses and additional resident-focused equipment.

Trainee Award winner Suzi Drake was also honoured for her contribution to the industry, as were Organisation Award winners Boandik Lodge Incorporated (Mt Gambier), Media Award winners Resthaven Incorporated, Designer Award winner Southern Cross Care (for The Pines Lodge) and Industry Supporter Award winners, Provider Assist.

Colourful entertainment was provided by The Singing Magpies, a group of older people and younger people with disabilities, expertly steered by musical director Lynne Pounsett.

"The evening was a great reminder of the fantastic efforts put in by aged care workers every day in their passionate commitment to improving outcomes for the people they care for" commented ACS SA&NT CEO Alan Graham.

"Nominations had increased significantly since the inaugural awards in 2010 and attendance in 2011 had doubled from last year. The event is quickly becoming a major highlight on the aged care industry's calendar" Mr Graham added.

All winners from the ACS SA & NT State Awards are now in the running for the 2011 National Awards run by national peak body Aged and Community Services Australia (ACSA), to be announced in Sydney in September.

In concluding CEO Alan Graham commented that: "the awards provide an opportunity for aged care providers to recognise and celebrate achievements with employees, volunteers and those organisations that support the sector. While inevitably there must be winners, we would like to think that every person or organisation nominated was a winner".

An overview of all Award categories and winners is attached for information.

Media Inquiries: Alan Graham, CEO, Ph. (08) 8338 7111 or mobile 0408 231 047.

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<i>Award Category</i>	<i>Winner</i>
Industry Supporter Award <i>Sponsored by Novitatech</i>	WINNER: Provider Assist Provider Assist was formed in 2002 and specializes in aged care funding, financial management and financial assessment of aged care facilities. They conceptualised and developed the Provider Assist Funding Review – an arm of the business designed to locate, recover and re-inject much deserved aged care funding back to the sector.
Volunteer Award <i>Sponsored by Mutual Community</i>	WINNER: Barbara Griffin, James Brown Memorial Trust Barbara is a fantastic volunteer role model at James Brown Memorial Trust's Kalyra Belair facility. The Kalyra Coffee Shop thrives under her leadership, now in its 25th year. The records have given up on keeping count of the cappuccinos served in the coffee shop, but by these efforts fostered by Barbara, the Coffee Shop volunteers have underwritten the purchase of a range of buses and additional resident focused equipment used extensively in the care and lifestyle programs
Employee Award <i>Sponsored by NASANSB</i>	WINNER: Stephanie Charlesworth, Frontier Services NT DBMAS Stephanie has a contagious enthusiasm and energy when looking for innovative ways to improve outcomes for her clients at the Northern Territory Dementia Behaviour Management Advisory Service. Stephanie completed her Enrolled Nurse training in Adelaide, has recently completed her studies in Aromatherapy and is now taking on the challenges of learning a local Indigenous language to enable her to communicate with and have a better understanding of her clients in East Arnhem Land.
Trainee Award	WINNER: Suzi Drake, Guide Dogs SA/NT Suzi commenced with Guide Dogs SA/NT in January 2010 in the role of Puppy Raising Coordinator and she leads a team that provides education, input and support for approximately 90 volunteer puppy raisers and boarders across Adelaide.

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<i>Award Category</i>	<i>Winner</i>
Media Award	WINNER: Resthaven Inc In 2010, Resthaven Incorporated celebrated 75 years of outstanding care and support for older South Australians and their carers. Established in 1935, Resthaven is a not-for-profit aged care community service of the Uniting Church. Resthaven's award entry surrounded the media campaign and events promoting its 75th anniversary.
Organisation Award	WINNER: Boandik Lodge Inc Boandik Lodge is a community-based aged care organisation providing care and services to older people in the South East of South Australia. Residential Care is provided for 224 people in Mount Gambier and community services are provided for over 400 clients throughout the entire South East Region. Boandik Lodge employs 350 staff with assistance from 100 volunteers.
Design Award	WINNER: The Pines Lodge, Southern Cross Care (SA & NT) Inc The Pines Lodge at North Plympton is a state-of-the-art facility combining leading edge design and technology with the interests of residents in mind. Each resident has his or her own room with a view to a garden area and a self contained private bathroom.

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