

MEDIA RELEASE

27 April 2019

Victoria's rural health professionals honoured in Melbourne

Thirty four awards were presented to rural health professionals as part of the Victorian Rural Health Awards today. The awards recognised the outstanding commitment and dedication of health professionals working in rural Victoria.

Held in conjunction with the 2019 Victorian Rural Health Conference, RWAV co-hosted the event with the Rural Doctors Association of Victoria. It was sponsored by the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services.

“We celebrate GPs, rural GP locums and medical specialists, who not only go beyond their call of duty but also support each other and mentor the next generation of health professionals,” said Dr Yousuf Ahmad, Chair of RWAV.

“We value allied health workers, nurses, practice managers, and Aboriginal health workers who provide invaluable support and expertise to build strong healthcare teams. Each of these health professional’s collective efforts deliver a high quality and sustainable healthcare system for rural Victoria.”

The award recipients have made a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of their local communities. The awards honour exceptional medical specialists, GPs, nurses, Aboriginal health workers, general practices, practice managers, allied health professionals and medical and nursing students working across rural Victoria.

Every year nominations are put forward by members of the public, community organisations and local healthcare providers and are assessed by an independent panel of judges.

Nominations open in October of each year and RWAV encourages the public to nominate local healthcare professionals who provide vital health services to rural and remote communities.

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List of Award Winners

Title	First Name	Last Name	Award	Location
Dr	Khoi	Bui	Rural Doctor Award: Outstanding Contribution	Healesville, VIC 3777
Dr	Mark	Farrugia	Rural Doctor Award: Outstanding Contribution	Castlemaine, VIC 3450
Dr	Clyde	Ronan	Rural Doctor Award: Outstanding Contribution and Length of Service Award	Yarrawonga, VIC 3730
Associate Professor	Marc	Budge	Medical Specialist Award	Bendigo, VIC 3550
Ms	Eileen	Alberts	Aboriginal Health Award	Heywood, VIC 3304
Ms	Gayle	Bloch	Practice Manager Award	Wonthaggi, VIC 3995
Ms	Gail	Kenyon	Practice Manager Award	Swan Hill, VIC 3585
Dr	Clare	Roczniok	GP Locum Award	Melbourne, VIC 3000
Ms	Kim	Wright	Rural Allied Health Professional Award	Beechworth, VIC 3747
Ms	Sheree	Ambrosini	Rural Nursing Award	Shepparton, VIC 3630
Dr	Sebastian	Kirby	Medical Student Award	Wangaratta, VIC 3677
Ms	Kaye	Bernshaw	Nursing Student Award	Wangaratta, VIC 3677
Ms	Jane	Swift	Allied Health Student Award	Ballarat, VIC 3350
Dr	Bruce	Altson	Length of Service Award	Euroa, VIC 3666
Dr	Malcolm	Anderson	Length of Service Award	Skipton, VIC 3361
Dr	Peter	Barker	Length of Service Award	Cohuna, VIC 3568
Dr	David	Campbell	Length of Service Award	Lakes Entrance, VIC 3909

Dr	Colin	Crook	Length of Service Award	Ballarat, VIC 3350
Dr	Katherine	Davey	Length of Service Award	Wangaratta, VIC 3677
Dr	Romano	De Nardo	Length of Service Award	Quarry Hill, VIC 3550
Dr	Helen	Dewhurst	Length of Service Award	Castlemaine, VIC 3450
Dr	Roger	Fitzgerald	Length of Service Award	Traralgon, VIC 3844
Dr	Suzanne	George	Length of Service Award	Bairnsdale, VIC 3975
Dr	Hulme	Hay	Length of Service Award	Bairnsdale, VIC 3975
Dr	Leeton	Hocking	Length of Service Award	Ballarat, VIC 3350
Dr	Philip	Huguenin	Length of Service Award	Korumburra, VIC 3950
Dr	Peter	Lindstedt	Length of Service Award	Paynesville, VIC 3880
Dr	Justin	Madden	Length of Service Award	Colac, VIC 3250
Dr	Rob	McDonald	Length of Service Award	Winchelsea, VIC 3241
Dr	Ian	Price	Length of Service Award	Wangaratta, VIC 3677
Dr	Jeneane	Rea	Length of Service Award	Shepparton, VIC 3630
Dr	John	Weinrich	Length of Service Award	Alfredton, VIC 3350
Dr	Simon	Williams	Length of Service Award	Sale, VIC 3850

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) creates sustainable health workforce models that support Victoria’s rural, regional and Aboriginal communities. We draw on trusted relationships, smart data and best practice to establish models that are capable, connected and tailored to the communities they serve.

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For further information or to arrange an interview:

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