

Victorian Disability Sector 2009 Awards for Disability Support Workers Nomination Form

A combined initiative of National Disability Services Victoria, Disability Professionals Victoria, Health and Community Services Union, Australian Education Union, Australasian Society for the Study of Intellectual Disability and the Department of Human Services.



Purpose of Awards

The purpose of the awards is to recognise the achievement and value of the role of the direct support worker in the Victorian disability field. It is to celebrate the role of disability support workers and their professional relationships with people with a disability, family members and friends, peers, other service providers and community networks.

How to Nominate

In 2009, the awards program will identify up to five individuals and one team of disability support workers to receive an award. Nominations will be accepted from people with a disability, their family and friends, their peers and managers. Nominees will be people that are recognised as valued and highly respected staff in their field of work. Nominees may work in any disability support service and their practice will be based on principles such as participation, inclusion and empowerment for people with a disability. The achievements of disability support workers may be evident through:

- Demonstrating an approach always based on including people with a disability in family and community life
- Building positive relationships with people with a disability based on dignity and respect – a 'person centred' approach
- Supporting and communicating with people with a disability in a way that develops their own sense of value, capability and influence
- Effectively enabling people with a disability to make choices, express their needs and assert their rights
- Capably developing new, responsive support services designed to enhance the quality of life of people with a disability
- Creating and maintaining a positive work culture focused on people with a disability – a 'leader in quality'
- Consistently supporting co-workers and creating positive work relationships within and across organisations

There may be other evidence supporting a nomination and applications should not be limited to the above list. Nominators will provide specific examples of how the nominee demonstrates these and other commendable attributes.

Nominations **close on 18 September 2009** and are to be submitted by post on the following form with the required attachments. The nomination form and related information will be handled in accordance with the department's Privacy Policy and the *Information Privacy Act 2000*.

The awards will be presented at a ceremony on the 19 November 2009 at the University of Melbourne. Award recipients will be notified in writing and invited to attend the Awards Ceremony.

**Victorian Disability Sector
2009 Awards for Disability Support Workers
Nomination Form**

Office use only
ID number

Eligibility

The nomination form is to be completed in written form and a hard copy including attachments submitted by post or facsimile. Nominations **close at 4pm on 18 September 2009**. Remember you may also include supporting documentation such as letters and references and you **must sign your name** on the form. Should you require assistance to access, decipher or complete the nomination form in written form, please contact Ms Kelly Boucher (details below).

In order to be eligible to receive an award the nominee/s must:

- ✓ Be employed in a State funded or operated disability service provided under the *Disability Act 2006*. (Note this usually **precludes** staff working in psychiatric employment, home and community care, kindergarten, school and higher education/TAFE settings).
- ✓ Be working in a direct support role (i.e. more than 50% of time directly supporting people with a disability).
- ✓ Have worked in the disability services field for at least two years.
- ✓ Have not previously received this award.

Nominee Details

1. Type of nomination

- Individual** **Team**

2. Details of individual/team being nominated (Please double check that names are spelt correctly)

Name of disability support worker/team members:

Employer organisation:

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Work address:

Postcode:

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Job title:

Length of service:

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3. What is your reason for nominating this person/team?

(Complete this section by typing or writing your response on a separate page/s and attaching to this form. Maximum word length of 500 words.)

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4. Please provide specific examples of how the nominee/teams have demonstrated the following attributes. (Complete this section by typing or writing your response to the following attributes on a separate page/s and attaching to this form.)

a. Demonstrating an approach always based on including people with a disability in family and/or community life:
b. Building positive relationships with people with a disability based on dignity and respect – a 'person centred' approach:
c. Supporting and communicating with people with a disability in a way that develops their own sense of value, capability and influence:
d. Enabling people with a disability to make choices, express their needs and assert their rights:
e. Developing new, responsive support services designed to enhance the quality of life of people with a disability:
f. Creating and maintaining a positive work culture focused on people with a disability – a 'leader in quality':
g. Consistently supporting co-workers and creating positive work relationships within and across organisations:

Nominated by:

Name:

Relationship to nominee:

Organisation (if relevant):

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Email:

I have advised the nominee/s of my proposed nomination and that the selection panel reserves the right to seek additional information from managers, peers, clients and carers. I have gained the nominee/s consent. **(Nominator's signature required here)**

5. Endorsement by nominee's manager or supervisor:

Name:

Position/Title:

Manager's signature:

Date:

Telephone:

Email:

6. Manager's comments supporting nomination

(Please write here or attach additional typed pages if you wish)

Return the Nomination Form by 4pm on 18 September 2009 to:

Postal Mail	Phone/email enquiries	Facsimile
Workforce Development & learning Disability Support Worker Awards Disability Services Department of Human Services 8/50 Lonsdale St MELBOURNE 3000	WDL Kelly Boucher (03) 9096 2965 wdl@dhs.vic.gov.au	(03) 9096 9138

Note: This nomination form is available to be printed from the Department of Human Services website at: <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/dswawards> or email wdl@dhs.vic.gov.au

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