A.N.Z. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

1997

LIST OF AWARDS

FUNDED BY
THE COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
&
NEW ZEALAND HEALTH DEPARTMENT
# AWARDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Queensland  
Western Australia  
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New South Wales  
New Zealand  
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South Australia  
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Western Australia  
Queensland
INTRODUCTION

The award program began in 1992 and is designed to reward and publicise services that have shown innovation and excellence. However, the program is not an exhaustive or fully objective measure of the best services in Australia or New Zealand, as it depends on services deciding to apply and the information they supply with. We do not have the resources for systematically reviewing all services. Apart from the written material supplied, we do contact people who are likely to know if a service is genuine. The services are assessed by four committees, covering nine categories, drawn from different disciplines and consumers, who are geographically spread around Australia and New Zealand. The Chairperson also scored the programs, when necessary, to avoid conflicts of interest. The services were rated on the following criteria:

1. Except for categories 6,7 & 8, Verification that the program has been operating (not in planning) for at least two years and is an ongoing one.
2. Evidence that the program has made a significant contribution to the field of mental health on a local or national level.
3. Evidence that the amount of change achieved is in line with the National Mental Health Policy.
4. Evidence that the program is doing something innovative.
5. Evidence that the program has involved consumers in planning and management.
6. Verification of the program’s effectiveness (quality assurance measures, utilisation review, outcome evaluations etc.).
7. Award potential, or feeling factor, as certain things come across in submissions that are hard to quantify.

In 1997, there were seventy-six applications received for the following categories:

1. COMPREHENSIVE CATCHMENT AREA SERVICE
2. SPECIALIST SERVICE OR INNOVATIVE PART OF A LARGER SERVICE
3. REHABILITATION SERVICE (including vocational and residential services)
4. CHILD AND ADOLESCENT SERVICE
5. SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS
6. PREVENTION, HEALTH PROMOTION OR HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES OR PROJECTS
7. BEST CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT SERVICES OR PROJECTS
8. INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM AWARD FOR AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THEORY, EDUCATION, OR PRACTICE

The awards were presented by the Hon Dr Michael Wooldridge, M.P., Minister for Health and Family Services, the Commonwealth of Australia, on Wednesday August 20, 1997 at the Sydney Town Hall. The money awarded and expenses were generously granted by the Australian ($350,000) and New Zealand (NZ$10,000) Governments in recognition of the importance they give to the development of best practice services throughout the two countries. This award program contributes to publicising to the good work being done in an environment where only bad news seems to appear in the media. The following pages give you the contact details for the services and a short summary of their activities. You are encouraged to contact them and to visit their services.

CATEGORY 1
COMPREHENSIVE CATCHMENT AREA SERVICE

- for overall excellence of service provision within the constraints of the resources available.

AWARD: GOLD $3,500

APPLYING PROGRAM: Rockingham Kwinana Psychiatric Service

FACILITY: Living Skills Centre, Kwinana
Community Mental Health Services - Rockingham and Kwinana
Alma Street Centre - Fremantle

DIRECTOR: Warwick Smith

ADDRESS: Rockingham Kwinana Psychiatric Service
P O Box 80, KWINANA WA 6167

CONTACT PERSON: Warwick Smith/Sandy Tail
Telephone: (09) 419 2800  Facsimile: (09) 439 4077

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
The Rockingham Kwinana Psychiatric Service provides adults aged 17 to 65 years with inpatient and a variety of targeted community services to a population of 80,000. This area is the southern most area of Perth and covers approximately 50 square kilometres and has one of the most rapidly expanding populations in Australia. Kwinana is close to a major industrial area and has the eighth lowest socio-economic index of social disadvantage among 300 post codes in Western Australia. Rockingham has a population of 60,000 people without adequate infrastructure, such as support and welfare services. The community team services its catchment population from two central sites in Rockingham and Kwinana with easy local access. Inpatient services in Fremantle Hospital are provided in a dedicated, custom-built unit opened in 1994 providing both secure and open facilities, as well as an acute Day Hospital service which promotes early discharge. Out of hours services are provided by the Psychiatric Emergency Team which is a metropolitan-wide service providing emergency response services coordinated centrally. There is also a regional weekend extended service.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
Rockingham Kwinana Psychiatric Service provides a quality comprehensive catchment area service. Both the community and inpatient services are ACHS accredited. The Rockingham Kwinana Psychiatric Service is based upon a model of a seamless, coordinated service that ensures continuity of care for clients whether they are receiving inpatient care or care in the community. Secure and open facilities are provided as well as an acute day programme. Targeted services include an Acute Team, to deal with urgent assessments and ongoing management, an Early Episode Psychosis Programme, a Complex Needs Team for longer term intensive management, a Postnatal Depression Project, Living Skills Centre, specialist clinical services and specialised psychological services to people from non-English speaking backgrounds. Strong links have been developed with primary care services, particularly General practitioners via the local division. An independent consumer and care' support group, Support In-Site Incorporated, has been developed.

AWARD: SILVER $2,000

APPLYING PROGRAM: Valley Integrated Adult Mental Health Service, Royal Brisbane Hospital District

FACILITY: Integrated Mental Health Service, Division of Mental Health, Royal Brisbane Hospital
DIRECTOR: Professor Peter Yellowlees,

ADDRESS: 162 Alfred Street, Fortitude Valley Q 4006

CONTACT PERSON: Lenore Meldrum, Research & Evaluation Psychologist
Telephone: (07) 3834 1624 Facsimile: (07) 3252 9152

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
This is the largest Community-based Mental Health Service in Queensland. It serves a population of 250,000 and is integrated with the Community ward within the Mental Health Centre at Royal Brisbane Hospital, which has 26 beds allocated specifically for consumers of the Valley Community Mental Health Service as well as the crisis service. With a current client case load of 800 clients, this service is very consumer focused, has won two Best Practice Awards from the 1996 statewide External Audit, a Queen's Trust Award for the Warren Street Theatre Company and was cited as an excellent service in the 1997 accreditation by the ACHS.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
The Valley Community Mental Health Service is the largest service of its type in Queensland. The service employs 45 full time staff and currently has an allocated community budget of $2.5 million. At any one time the service treats 800 patients suffering from mental health disorders of whom 60-70% have psychosis. The service also runs an area based in-patient unit and is responsible for community crisis work and emergency services, at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. The staff work in multi-disciplinary teams; two acute and continuous care teams and one rehabilitation team. The service is developing strong research support with the appointment of a research psychologist to assist the members of the service teams in the development of outcome research. There is also currently a consumer evaluator working with the service on a time-limited contract. The service has a strong community basis and embraces the Primary Health Care philosophy.

AWARD: BRONZE - $1,000

APPLYING PROGRAM: Community Based Comprehensive Psychiatric Services

FACILITY: Warrambool & District Base Hospital Psychiatric Services Division.

DIRECTOR: Ken Burnett, Director Psychiatric Services

ADDRESS: ‘Bohan Place’, Lava Street, (P O Box 197), Warrambool Vic 3280
Telephone: (03) 5561 9100 Facsimile: (03) 5561 3813

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
The Warrambool & District Base Hospital Psychiatric Services Division operates as a Division of the Hospital and provides a comprehensive range of mental health services throughout south western Victoria, including child and adolescent, adult and aged persons services. The catchment covers an area of 25,000 square kilometres with a target population of 100,000. Services are community based with teams located in Portland, Hamilton, Camperdown and Warrambool providing a 24 hour, seven day a week service. A 15 bed acute psychiatric inpatient facility is co-located on the general hospital campus and a community residential care facility is also available.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
Following mainstream in 1992, the Warrambool and District Base Hospital has reformed and redeveloped psychiatric service provision in south western Victoria from a comprehensive community-based model of integrated mental health care. Since that time the two hundred and fifty bed institution has closed, and in its place specialised multidisciplinary community based teams have been located in the strategic geographical centres of Hamilton, Portland, Camperdown and Warrambool, delivering modern integrated mental health care to clients, principally in the client’s own environment. The Warrambool & District Base Hospital Psychiatric Services Division has developed a service that focuses on early detection and intervention and is easily accessible. It is also highly accountable, continually examining the standard and quality of its service provision, the outcome of its treatment strategies and interventions with its clients. It implements and evaluates extensive ongoing education and skills development for all staff, and participates in local and international research.

CATEGOR 2

SPECIALIST SERVICE OR INNOVATIVE PART OF A LARGER SERVICE

- any area of service excluding the categories below.

AWARD: GOLD NZ$4,500

APPLYING PROGRAM: Mental Health Services - Auckland Health care

FACILITY: Te Puau Ora - Maori Community Support Work Service

DIRECTOR: Winston T. Maniapoto

ADDRESS: Private Bag 92605, Symonds Street, Auckland, New Zealand

CONTACT PERSON: Winston T. Maniapoto
Telephone: (09) 5708253 Facsimile: (09) 5702895 Cell: 025 825.857

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
Te Puau Ora M.C.S.W. was established in 1995 to assist Maori people with a long term disabling mental illness to meet basic needs related to community living and self-management of their illness. It consists of a Manager, Team Leader, 5 MCSWS and an administrator. It serves the central Auckland catchment area, population.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
Te Puau Ora is a Maori Community Support Work Service that was established to support Maori people with an ongoing psychiatric illness who live in the community. The service is directed specifically at Maori who nationally have a disproportionate number of admissions and re-admissions to acute Psychiatric Hospitals. It is staffed entirely by Maori and can only accept Maori clients into the Service. Of the first 85 clients referred to this Service, the average admissions to the Acute Inpatient Unit was reduced from 35.2 prior to referral to 7.6. This reduction is attributable to the drive and focus of the cultural input by Te Puau Ora, the holistic approach to supporting the whanau (family) and the strong working links developed with the clinical teams. It is a model of care that sets its philosophical base on traditional concepts to assist clients and their whanau (families) to lead wholesome quality lives and includes home economics, cooking, personal hygiene, housing education, recreation and leisure, communication, independence and empowerment; the service also advocates and negotiates with both Government and non-government organisations and includes Income Support, New Zealand Employment Service, Housing New Zealand, Police, Courts, GP’s, Health Trusts, Employers, Accommodation Providers, Sports Clubs etc. and other services and organisations as required.

AWARD: SILVER $2,000

APPLYING PROGRAM: Waratah Area Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Service

FACILITY: The Inner West Area Mental Health Service - The Royal Melbourne Hospital
ongoing relationship with their carer(s).

CATEGORY 3
REHABILITATION SERVICES
(including vocational and residential services)

AWARD: GOLD $3,500

APPLYING PROGRAM: Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Programs

FACILITY: Prahran Mission

DIRECTOR: Dr Joan Clarke

ADDRESS: 211 Chapel St, Prahran, Vic. 3181
P O Box 68, Prahran, Vic. 3181

CONTACT PERSON: Mara Pacers, Manager PSRP
Telephone: (03) 9510 8752 Facsimile: (03) 9510 6163

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
Prahran Mission is a Uniting Church, Non-Government, agency of 13 discreet programs and approx. 100 staff. The agency is based in Prahran and serves the Southern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne. Seven psychiatric rehabilitation programs are offered, and together provide services to over 1,000 people with serious psychiatric disabilities per annum.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
Programs have been developed in direct response to consumer need and service gaps in the community, and are often unique. These programs are actively used to further knowledge in the field, through targeted use of program reviews, evaluation, data-base maintenance and research. It is the blend of professionalism and technical competence, a commitment to evidence based practice and a scientific approach to program development and evaluation together with a philosophy and humanity, compassion and hope, that characterises Prahran Mission.

AWARD: SILVER NZ$2,500

APPLYING PROGRAM: Transitions Supported Employment

FACILITY: AMHS

DIRECTOR: Rob Warriner

ADDRESS: P. O. Box 331180, Takapuna, North Shore City, NEW ZEALAND

CONTACT PERSON: Rob Warriner
Telephone: (09) 410 0604 Facsimile: (09) 410 0602

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
The AMHS is a non-Government organisation which was established 7 years ago by families of consumers of mental health services and members of the North Shore community. The AMHS now provides a range of support services for people who experience a psychiatric illness. Services include
supported accommodation (5 homes), 24 hour staffed residential support, community support and vocational support. The AMHS employs a total of 31 staff (full and part time), servicing the North Shore of Auckland/Rodney Region, with a population of approx. 289,000 people.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:**
Transitions Supported Employment provides a supported employment service which is both specific and responsive to the needs of people who experience a psychiatric illness in the areas of training, education, job search, development, placement and retention. It is a service whose values base emphasises the social importance of work (and education) settings in our culture, as means of establishing oneself as an individual, and as means of building social networks with other community members. Transitions advocates that the provision of vocational services needs to be regarded as a key tool to the successful provision of community based Services. The benefits which accrue from such services have the potential to positively impact in the broadest possible terms: from the clients to the wider community at large.

**AWARD:** BRONZE $1,000
**APPLYING PROGRAM:** Recreational and Vocational Program Rehabilitation Services
**FACILITY:** Gippsland Psychiatric Services - Latrobe Regional Hospital
**DIRECTOR:** Mr Brian Jenner
**ADDRESS:** P. O. Box 761, Traralgon VIC 3844
**CONTACT PERSON:** Ms Sue Henderson Telephone: (03) 5171 1347 Facsimile: (03) 5171 1276

**DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:** Built in the South East of Victoria, Gippsland Psychiatric Services provides mental health care to approximately 2,500 registered clients across a geographical area of some 44,000 sq kilometers. Service provision is primarily community based, operating from ten "service centres" throughout the region. Inpatient facilities for both adult and aged care clients are provided.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:** Creative House is a Recreational and Vocational program conducted under the management of Gippsland Psychiatric Services. The program has been operating since 1994. What makes this program special is that it has a low budget and low staff numbers but plenty of enthusiasm and vision. To survive, the program has to involve clients to the maximum in devising and running the program. Volunteers are also highly valued by staff and clients alike. Well kept records indicate that clients have increased their skill levels, increased their attendance and decreased their hospitalisation since being involved in Creative House.

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**CATEGORY 4
CHILD & ADOLESCENT SERVICES**

**AWARD:** GOLD $3,500
**APPLYING PROGRAM:** Royal Children's Hospital
**FACILITIES:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
**DIRECTOR:** Professor Robert Adler
**ADDRESS:** 50 Flemington Street, Flemington, Vic. 3031
**CONTACT PERSON:** Harry Gelber, Video-conferencing, Project Manager Telephone: (03) 9345 5011 Facsimile: (03) 9345 0010

**DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:** The Royal Children's hospital mental health service provides both inpatient and consultation services to clients and their families. As a tertiary based service it has responsibility for providing a range of mental health input to the Western part of Victoria. The area of responsibility encompasses the Barwon South Western area, which has a population of 95,200 under 19 year olds, the Grampians region which serves a population of 52,700 under 19 year olds and the Loddon Mallee Region (including the Southern Mallee area) with approximately 80,300 under the age of 19. The organisation has a strong commitment to research, inquiry and education, and primary prevention of difficulties in the area of child and adolescent mental health.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:** The Video-Conferencing Project was established initially as a pilot project by the Royal Children's Hospital Mental Health Service in April 1995 in collaboration with the rural Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Mildura, Bendigo and Warrnambool. This was the first application of the use of video-conferencing in child and adolescent mental health services in Australia. The project's main aim was to facilitate access of rural health care service providers and their clients to specialist child and adolescent psychiatric expertise. The project has met this aim and the technology is now part of routine service delivery to rural Victoria.

**AWARD** SILVER $2,000
**APPLYING PROGRAM:** The PACE Clinic
**DIRECTOR:** Dr Alison Yung
**ADDRESS:** 35 Poplar Road, (Locked Bag 10), Parkville Vic 3052
**CONTACT PERSON:** Lisa Phillips (Coordinator) Telephone: (03) 9342 2800 Facsimile: (03) 9387 3003

**DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:** PACE is a service for young people aged 14-30 who live in the Melbourne metropolitan area and have been identified as being at high risk of developing a psychotic disorder. There are three components to the service: (i) clinical service, (ii) community development and education service and (iii) research and evaluate component. PACE is staffed by psychiatrists, psychologists and research assistants and is a
programme of the Centre for Young People's Mental Health, Western Health care Network.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
The PACE Clinic is an innovative program which aims to prevent the development of psychotic disorders such as schizophrenia in vulnerable or 'high risk' young people. Individuals are identified as high risk according to certain symptoms or other factors such as family history. PACE aims to (i) educate primary carers, such as general practitioners and school counsellors about high risk young people; (ii) to provide a flexible and accessible service for young people, (iii) to treat clients current problems; (iv) to research factors which make the development of psychosis more or less likely; and (v) to evaluate the service and adapt it according to need including consumer feedback.

AWARD: BRONZE $1,000
APPLYING PROGRAM: YouthLink
FACILITIES: Inner City Mental Health Service Royal Perth Hospital
DIRECTOR: Ms Jennifer Griffiths (Co-ordinator - YouthLink)
ADDRESS: 20 Murray Street, Perth, WA, 6000
CONTACT PERSON: Ms Jennifer Griffiths Telephone: (08) 9224 1700 Facsimile: (08) 9224 1711

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
YouthLink is a mental health service providing direct clinical and support services to homeless and at-risk young people throughout the Perth metropolitan area, and training and consultancy services to workers with at-risk youth throughout Western Australia. Staffing (approximately 10 fte) comprises Clinical Psychology, Social Work and Welfare Work practitioners, and a Receptionist/Clerical Officer. Psychiatry Services are also available as required, through the co-located Community Assessment and Treatment Team.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
YouthLink provides assessment, counselling and therapy, and practical support to homeless and at-risk young people aged 12 - 19 years, who are disconnected from mainstream health, welfare and accommodation services. YouthLink has a particular focus on reducing suicidal and self-harming behaviours, as well as addressing other mental health and psychosocial problems, including substance abuse, depression, sexual abuse issues and early psychosis. A separately funded innovative project focussing on the needs of Aboriginal young people is also currently under way within YouthLink. YouthLink provides free, mobile services to young people in all Perth metropolitan areas. Education and training programmes and consultancy services are also provided free to other agencies and workers with at-risk young people.

CATEGORY 5 SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

There were no entries for this category.

CATEGORY 6 PREVENTION, HEALTH PROMOTION OR HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES OF PROJECTS

AWARD: GOLD $3,500
APPLYING PROGRAM: Darwin Rural Aboriginal Mental Health Team
FACILITIES: Territory Health Services
DIRECTOR: Chicky Darling
ADDRESS: Royal Darwin Hospital, Rocklands Drive, Tiwi NT 0812
CONTACT PERSON: John Maher Telephone: (08) 8922 8572 Facsimile: (08) 8922 8940

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
Darwin Rural District is one region under the Mental Health Services Program. The region is made up of the following groupings of communities.
- Tiwi Islands including Nguluwu(pop.1323), Miliakati(pop.450) and Pirangimpi(pop.292) and their out stations because of the same language, ceremonies and beliefs.
- Batchelor(pop.800), Adelaide River(pop.405) and Jabiru(pop.2000) because of their large 'non-Aboriginal' populations.
- Belyuen(pop.250), Naulu Nambiyu(pop.350), Ngamanamayanga(pop.300), Peppimenarti(pop.300), Wadaye(pop.1500), Batchelor, Adelaide River and their out stations, because of basic ceremony ways (many different languages).
- Maningrida(pop.1784), Warrnu(pop.426), Kunbarlanjina(pop.1200), Minjilangi(pop.204), Jabiru and their outstations, because of basic ceremony ways (this group receives only the barest of services).

The area covered is roughly about 70,000 sq.kms. All populations are approximate, they may change drastically depending on the season.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
The Aboriginal Mental Health Team in Darwin Rural District has a total of seven staff. Two registered mental health nurses, one who is on temporary secondment to Darwin Urban District. One permanent Aboriginal mental health worker, based in Darwin. Two temporary Aboriginal mental health workers, one based in Darwin and one based in Belyuen (The funding for these positions is through the Territory Health Service and is being evaluated for permanency). Two Aboriginal mental health workers, one based in Miliakati and one based in Ngamanamayanga (The funding for these positions is from the Commonwealth Government, the funding finishes after two years. Mid 1997). Associated closely with the team is another community based worker in Miliakati working on a two year project for the prevention of Youth Suicide (to finish in Dec. 1998). The team also provides a fairly comprehensive service to the Darwin based Psychiatric Inpatient Facility.

AWARD: SILVER $2,000
APPLYING PROGRAM: The PACE Clinic
DIRECTOR: Dr Alison Yung
ADDRESS: Locked Bag 10, Parkville, Victoria, 3052 or
CATEGORY 7
BEST CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT SERVICES OR PROJECTS

- for consumer controlled or consumer/provider partnership activities (especially projects where consumers have at least equal power and were involved from the start), including advocacy programs, provider staff education, or research. This category includes activities involving carers.

AWARD: GOLD $3,500

APPLYING PROGRAM: Building Blocks Consumer Network
DIRECTOR: Helen Glover - Consumer Network Officer
ADDRESS: 110 King Street, Caboolture, Qld 4510
CONTACT PERSON: Helen Glover
Telephone: (07) 54 955037 Facsimile: (07) 54 952542
E-Mail: bblockcab@ats.com.au

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
Consumer Network and Peer Support and involvement in Mental Health Service delivery in the Caboolture (Qld) and surrounding areas. The Building Block Consumer Network works in partnership with Caboolture Adult Mental Health Service which covers the Caboolture and Kiscoy Shires in South East Queensland (population 100,000).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
Building Blocks Consumer Network offers peer support and information for people who experience a mental illness in the Caboolture and surrounding areas. The Peer Initiative Project promotes the concept of mutual support and has developed projects such as a 24 hour Chatline, Recovery CoPs, a Quiet Space and Resource Centre. In addition to this, consumers provide an active and effective advisory service to Caboolture Adult Mental Health Service.

AWARD: SILVER $2,000

APPLYING PROGRAM: "Living Well With Schizophrenia"

FACILITY: Schizophrenia Fellowship of SA Inc.

DIRECTOR: Irene Towler
ADDRESS: P O Box 310, Marionton, SA 5033
Telephone: (08) 8221 5160

CONTACT PERSON: Sandra Miller
Telephone: (08) 8447 3947

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
The Schizophrenia Fellowship of SA is a non-government organisation which was established in 1983 to promote community awareness about schizophrenia and support people with the illness and their carers. The Fellowship is funded by the State Government and through membership and donation. It provides a service throughout South Australia.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
Three people with personal experience of schizophrenia and a community mental health worker gathered...
and recorded practical and creative strategies that people with schizophrenia use to deal with the day to day challenges of living with the illness. The group compiled the strategies into a book, “Living Well with Schizophrenia”. 2,000 copies have been printed and over 1,000 distributed with very positive feedback. The group also used the ideas collected to run a series of workshops and produce a 12 minute video for people with mental illness. Over 100 people with mental illness contributed their valuable ideas to this project.

**AWARD:** BRONZE $1,000

**APPLYING PROGRAM:** Mental Health Consumer Network
Norther Sydney Area Health Service

**FACILITY:** Mental Health Consumer Office in each sub-area service areas within Norther Sydney Area Health Service

**DIRECTOR:** Monica Warby, Area Liaison Representative

**ADDRESS:** Level 1, Vindin House, Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards NSW 2065

**CONTACT PERSON:** Deely Casey
Telephone: (02) 9976 9602 Facsimile: (02) 9976 9663

**DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:** Primary mental health consumer management and involvement program. Approximately 100 consumers involved in the network. The NSAHs encompasses a geographical area of approx. 972 sq km and comprises the local government areas of Hornsby, Ku-ring-gai, Ryde, Hunters Hill, Lane Cove, Willoughby, North Sydney, Mosman, Manly, Warringah and Pittwater.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:** The Network was established in 1994 to increase consumer participation and empowerment at all levels of mental health services. Consumers are recognised and acknowledged to present the consumer viewpoint in the planning and management of services. Services are responding to consumer ideas, suggestions and concerns. The unique structure of the Network has involved over 100 consumers form all sub-areas of the Area Health Service. The Network receives recurrent funding which is managed by the consumers and consumer offices were established. Activities include participation in meetings, workshops, seminars and conferences; special projects; training; Peer Support Advocates; social activities; newsletter; and consultations.

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**CATEGORY 8**

**INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM AWARD FOR AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THEORY, EDUCATION, OR PRACTICE** - whether current, or in the past, to recognise people who have made an important contribution to the development of better services.

**AWARD:** GOLD $3,500

**APPLYING PROGRAM:** The Centre for Indigenous Mental Health Research & Education.

**FACILITY:** University of Melbourne Department of Psychiatry, St Vincent's Hospital

**DIRECTOR:** Dr Jane McKendrick and Ms Marjorie Thorpe

**ADDRESS:** University of Melbourne, Dept. Of Psychiatry, St Vincent's Hospital, Fitzroy 3065 VIC.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Dr Jane McKendrick
Telephone: (03) 9370 3246 Facsimile: (03) 9288 4147

**DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:** The Department of Psychiatry, University of Melbourne, St Vincent's Hospital is an academic Psychiatric facility which has clinical, education and training and research/evaluation roles. Through the Centre for Indigenous Mental Health Education and Research the Department serves Aboriginal communities throughout Victoria and consults to Aboriginal communities throughout Australia.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:** The Centre for Indigenous Mental Health Education and Research, is a unique initiative which has been at the leading edge of Mental Health programs for Aboriginal people for over a decade. Aboriginal communities must determine their needs and how to meet them. Strong links with Aboriginal communities, including consumers and carers (through community controlled health services) and the belief that working together is the best way of addressing the mental health of Aboriginal communities, are central to our programs. The Centre enables the development of integrated mental health programs for Aboriginal people through strategic education/evaluation programs.

**AWARD:** SILVER $2,000

**APPLYING PROGRAM:** Diploma of Health Science (Mental Health)

**FACILITY:** Joint Initiative with Charles Sturt University, Southern Health Service, and Aboriginal Steering Committee

**DIRECTOR:** Kevin Kidd & Professor David Batterby

**ADDRESS:** Charles Sturt University, P O Box 588, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650 Kenmore Hospital Campus, Locked Bag 28, Goulburn, NSW 2580

**CONTACT PERSON:** Judy Wasteney/Charanjit Singh, Len Kanowski, Jean Begg
Telephone: (048) 27 3409 or (069) 33 2469
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
The Diploma of Health Science (Mental Health) is a course specifically designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health professionals to meet the needs of their respective community. This joint initiative by the Aboriginal Mental Health Education Steering Committee, Charles Sturt University, Faculty of Health Studies and the Southern Health Service. The purpose and main aim of this unique initiative is to train Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health workers so that they can be equipped with a portable professional qualification to work in any mental health setting including Aboriginal settings. The first three students have graduated from the original pilot course and the course is being supported by various Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities coupled with positive feedback from external assessors. There is widespread support from the Charles Sturt University and the Southern Health Services, including Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander organisations, to continue this unique and worthwhile course. It has helped the communities deal with mental health problems.

AWARD: BRONZE $1,000

APPLYING PROGRAM: Darwin Rural Aboriginal Mental Health Team

FACILITIES: Territory Health Services

DIRECTOR: Chicky Darling,

ADDRESS: Royal Darwin Hospital, Rocklands Drive, Tiwi. NT 0812

CONTACT PERSON: John Maher
Telephone: (08) 8922 8572 Facsimile: (08) 8922 8940

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY:
Darwin Rural District is one region under the Mental Health Services Program. The region is made up of groupings of the communities.
* Tiwi Islands including Nguiu(pop.1323), Milikapiti (pop.450) and Pirlangimpi(pop.292) and their out stations because of the same language, ceremonies and beliefs.
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The area covered is roughly about 70,000 sq.klms. All populations are approximate, they may change drastically depending on the season.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
The Aboriginal Mental Health Team in Darwin Rural District has a total of seven staff. Two registered mental health nurses, one who is on temporary secondment to Darwin Urban District. One permanent Aboriginal mental health worker, based in Darwin. Two temporary Aboriginal mental health workers, one based in Darwin and one based in Belyuen (The funding for these positions is through the Territory Health Service and is being evaluated for permanency). Two Aboriginal mental health workers, one based in Milikapiti and one based in Nganmarridencya (The funding for these positions is from the Commonwealth Government, the funding finishes after two years. Mid 1997). Associated closely with the team is another community based worker in Milikapiti working on a two year project for the prevention of Youth Suicide (to finish in Dec. 1998). The team also provides a fairly comprehensive service to the Darwin based Psychiatric Inpatient Facility.