

28 July 2014

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR VICTORIA'S HEALTH PROMOTION HEROES OF 2014

Nominations have opened for the **2014 Victorian Health Promotion Foundation Awards** – Victoria's only awards recognising the state's world-class innovative and successful health promotion work.

Entries are invited from state and local governments, health agencies, non-government, not-for-profit and private sector organisations. All of Victoria's leading health promotion projects – from large programs with a broad reach, to the best health promotion ideas at a local level are encouraged to enter.

The categories for 2014 are:

- Promoting healthy eating
- Encouraging physical activity
- Preventing tobacco use
- Preventing harm from alcohol
- Improving mental wellbeing
- Communications in health promotion
- Building health through sports
- Building health through arts
- Research into action.

Entries will be assessed based on their work between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014.

VicHealth CEO Jerril Rechter said the awards recognise the value of health promotion in Victoria.

“Every day, people throughout Victoria are using health promotion to make our communities happier and healthier places. It could take the form of ground-breaking research, a social sport event bringing people together or a state-wide awareness campaign.”

“Last year we had a record number of entries, with winners including FebFast, Women's Health Goulburn North East, and the Cancer Council Victoria.”

“This year, we'll continue the tradition of honouring initiatives, projects, campaigns, health agencies, organisations and teams delivering innovative work to improve the health and wellbeing of all Victorians.”

“If your work improves the health of Victorians, I encourage you to enter the 2014 awards and share your ideas and achievements with the rest of the state,” Ms Rechter said.

Nominations close at 5pm, **Friday 29 August** and should be submitted online at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/awards where the full entry criteria is outlined. Winners will be announced at a ceremony to be held at the Plaza Ballroom in Melbourne on Wednesday 3 December 2014.

Self-nominations are accepted, as are nominations on another organisation's behalf. Entries will be judged by a panel drawn from key health promotion and public health experts.

Email awards@vichealth.vic.gov.au or call **03 9667 1315** for more information.