

Media Release

Thursday 7 November 2019

VICHEALTH AWARD FINALISTS - VICTORIA'S HEALTH PROMOTION TRAILBLAZERS REVEALED

The 59 finalists in the 2019 VicHealth Awards were revealed today, showcasing the trailblazing health promotion work happening across Victoria.

VicHealth CEO Dr Sandro Demaio said the quality and breadth of the finalists helping Victorians to live healthier, happier lives is astounding.

"This was my first year being involved with the VicHealth Awards, and the incredible diversity of the finalists was fantastic to see," Dr Demaio said.

"Regardless of your gender, age, ethnicity, sexuality or where you live – everyone should be able to live a happy, healthy life – and I really believe this year's finalists speak to that."

2019 saw the largest number of finalists ever in a VicHealth Awards, with an increase of over 50% in total nominations received.

"I commend every one of the 59 finalists for making it to this stage, and I can't wait to acknowledge and celebrate with all the finalists at the VicHealth Awards Ceremony on 3 December."

The VicHealth Awards are the state's highest accolade for health promotion, recognising the efforts of local grassroots projects to state-wide campaigns and everything in between.

Finalists in the 2019 VicHealth Awards:

Promoting healthy eating

- **Cardinia Food Circles** - Cardinia Shire Council, together with Sustain: The Australian Food Network, Monash Health, Monash University, Koo Wee Rup Regional Health, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, Cardinia Food Movement, Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority, Casey Cardinia Libraries, Southern Migrant Resource Centre, The Community Grocer, and United Africa Farm
- **Going Green for Wellbeing** - Western District Health Service, together with Deakin University
- **Monash University's Health and Wellbeing Team Transforms Vending and Food Retail for Better Health** - Monash University
- **Promoting Enabling Local Environments: Improving Access to Healthy Food and Drink Options** - Peninsula Health, together with Frankston City Council, Mornington Peninsula Shire, and Frankston Mornington Peninsula Primary Care Partnership
- **Unpack the Salt - Reformulation Readiness for Food Manufacturers** - Heart Foundation, together with the Victorian Salt Reduction Partnership

Promoting health through physical activity and sport

- **Dr Cranky's – Bikes for Kids That Need Them** - Dr Cranky's
- **ENJOY Project** - National Ageing Research Institute, together with Whittlesea City Council, Wyndham City Council, Old Colonists' Association of Victoria and Gandel Philanthropy

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[Imogen Baratta Acting Senior Media Advisor on 03 9667 1319 or ibaratta@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:ibaratta@vichealth.vic.gov.au)

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- **Hepburn Shire Council Active Women and Girls Strategy** - Hepburn Shire Council, together with Sport and Recreation Victoria
- **Serco Fit For Life Park Athlete Program** - Serco Australia, together with Recovre
- **SaintsPlay** - St Kilda Football Club
- **Walking Football** - City in the Community
- **2 on 2 St Kilda Beach Basketball Tournament** - City of Port Phillip, together with St Kilda Police and Citizens Youth Club

Preventing tobacco use

- **Latrobe Smoking Cessation Initiative - Latrobe Health Innovation Zone** - Gippsland Primary Health Network, together with Quit Victoria
- **Supporting the LGBTIQ Community to Become Smokefree** - Quit Victoria, together with Melbourne Queer Film Festival and Thorne Harbour Health

Preventing harm from alcohol

- **Connecting Diversity** - IndianCare Inc. together with The Alcohol and Drug Foundation
- **Deakin University Alcohol Culture Change Project** - Deakin University
- **Who's it Gonna Hurt?** - Wodonga Council, together with Dutch Media, and Deakin University
- **YARD** - City of Whittlesea, together with Youth Support and Advocacy Services, Monash University, and Turning Point
- **Youth CAN (Changing Alcohol Norms)** - Horsham Rural City Council, together with Federation University

Improving mental wellbeing

- **Arts Wellbeing Collective** - Arts Centre Melbourne
- **Cyber Cats** - Geelong Football Club, together with headspace Geelong, and Barwon Child, Youth and Family
- **headspace Work and Study Service** - headspace
- **The Big Feels Club** - The Big Feels Club
- **The Cook, the Chef and Us** - Hepburn Health Service, together with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, Hepburn Health Service, Daylesford College, and the Hepburn LDAT (Hepburn Health Service, Daylesford College, Hepburn Shire Council, Daylesford Neighbourhood Centre, Victoria Police, Community Members)

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Improving the health and wellbeing of young Victorians

- **Bandmates Victoria** - Maribyrnong City Council
- **IMPACT! - a Roadmap to Social and Emotional Wellbeing** - Brophy Family and Youth Services, together with Melbourne University and the Australian Drug Foundation
- **Latrobe Streetgames** – GippSport, together with the Latrobe Health Assembly
- **Liminal Platform: Virtual Reality for Resilience, Emotional Regulation and Wellbeing in Schools** - Liminal VR Pty Ltd, together with Wellbeing in Schools Australia
- **Lort Smith Pet Therapy Youth Justice Program** - Lort Smith, together with the Parkville Youth Justice Precinct - Parkville College and the Department of Justice and Community Safety Victoria
- **Road to Zero** - Transport Accident Commission, together with Museums Victoria

Improving health through arts

- **Big hART - Project O Frankston** - Big hART, together with Mahogany Rise Primary School, Monterey Secondary College, Victorian Government - Creative Victoria and Office for Women, and The Angior Foundation and Perpetual Trustees, The Matana Foundation
- **Cultural Pharmacy** - Regional Arts Victoria, together with Regional Arts Victoria, Artlands Victoria 2018, and Regional Arts Australia
- **"Dream Big" - Melton Festival for Healthy Living (FHL)** - Djerriwarrh Health Services, together with the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Education and Training, Royal Children's Hospital Mental Health (RCH), Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services, VICSEG new futures, and MacKillop Family Services
- **'STIGMA: dismantled, revealed' a visual arts exhibition** - The Dax Centre, together with The Vizard Foundation
- **Using Stand-up comedy to educate the Aboriginal Community about Bowel Cancer Screening** - Cancer Council Victoria

Improving health equity

- **Aboriginal Breast Screening Shawl** - BreastScreen Victoria, together with the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Deakin University
- **Launch Housing - Healthcare Response in Crisis Accommodation** - Launch Housing, together with Star Health, The Shine On Foundation
- **right@home: nurse home visiting to address family adversity** - Murdoch Children's Research Institute, together with the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth, Western Sydney University

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- **Unseen, Unheard, Under-screened – Improving access to cancer screening for people with disabilities** - BreastScreen Victoria, together with the Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability (VALID), Cancer Council Victoria (Cancer Council), Department Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- **Wellah Weekend – Aboriginal Men’s Health camp** - The E.J. Whitten Foundation, together with Spark Health Australia, an Aboriginal-led health promotion business Cultural Pharmacy - Regional Arts Victoria, together with Regional Arts Victoria, Artlands Victoria 2018, and Regional Arts Australia

Promoting gender equality

- **Empowering Students in Victorian Universities to Take Action Against Sexism and Sexual Harassment** - The Behavioural Insights Team, together with Victoria University, and The University of Melbourne
- **Girl Geek Academy STEM and Gender Equality Program** - Girl Geek Academy, together with Women's Health East
- **Let's Talk Money** - Women's Health In the North
- **Yarra Ranges Council: Leading Gender Equity in the Workplace** - Yarra Ranges Council

Research into action

- **Emerging Issues in Using Technology for Adolescent Physical Activity: Lessons Learnt** - Deakin University
- **Exploring Men's Risky Drinking Cultures** - Monash University, together with Turning Point
- **Obesity Evidence Hub** - Cancer Council Victoria, together with Bupa Health Foundation, Obesity Policy Coalition, Obesity Collective
- **The Man Box: Promoting Positive Social Change About What it Means to be a Man in the 21st Century** - Jesuit Social Services
- **Transforming Fertility Care for Children and Adolescents with Cancer** - The Royal Children’s Hospital, together with The Women’s Hospital, and The University of Melbourne

Communications in health promotion

- **A New Way to Talk About Cancer** - North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network, together with the Department of Health and Human Services, Western Health, Cancer Council Victoria, and Improving and Promoting Community Health (IPC Health)
- **Doing Nothing Does Harm** - Our Watch
- **Gippy Girls Can** - GippSport, together with the Latrobe Health Innovation Zone and the Latrobe Health Assembly

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- **Little Pricks** - Thorne Harbour Health
- **The Line - Never Follow** - Our Watch

Outstanding reporting of women's sport

- **Angus Dearlove** - Sunraysia Daily
- **Kate O'Halloran** - Kick Like A Girl: Increasing Visibility and Equity for Women in Sport
- **Melanie Whelan** - The Courier (Ballarat)
- **Samantha Lane** - Channel 7
- **The Outer Sanctum Podcast**

The 2019 VicHealth Award Ceremony will be held on the evening on Tuesday 3 December 2019

For more information about the 2019 VicHealth Awards and to access the VicHealth Awards Finalist Gallery visit <https://vha.awardsplatform.com/gallery/QaxqeQNV> or email awards@vichealth.vic.gov.au

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