

## Media Release

### Pilbara Community Services Excellence Awards November 6, 2018



The winners have been announced for the 2018 Pilbara Community Services Excellence Awards in Dampier, with 14 outstanding candidates recognised for their contributions to our regional communities.

The inaugural awards, presented by Pilbara for Purpose (P4P) recognise the work of organisations and individuals in the community services sector, who have demonstrably made a positive difference to people, families, and communities through innovative and creative practice. P4P is the peak membership body of the “for purpose” sector in the Pilbara. P4P aims to support innovation and increase collaboration in delivering community services

Finalists in the awards included, health, Aboriginal, youth, homelessness, mental health, aged care, out of home care, volunteers and emergency relief organisations. “We have a strong and vibrant community services sector in the Pilbara but for many years there has been limited awareness of the work and significant achievements of the sector.,” said James Jarvis, Chief Executive Officer, Nintirri and Pilbara for Purpose Chair.

“The awards were created to celebrate and showcase the hard work, determination and commitment of local organisations and individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes providing essential social services to support, empower and strengthen our Pilbara communities”

“We received a fantastic response to the Awards with almost 70 nominations in 10 categories from across the region. The awards would not be possible without the support and partnerships with the Rio Tinto, Rural Health West, Anglicare WA, Roy Hill, WA Primary Health Alliance, Panaceum Group and Mission Australia,” said Karen Armstrong, Pilbara for Purpose.

“We are honoured to be able to support the Pilbara awards, acknowledging organisations and individuals, who perform tireless work in the sector year after year,” said Sarah Turner, Pilbara Manager, WA Council of Social Service. “I look forward to seeing strong representation from the region at the state-wide CSEA awards in 2020.”

The winners for each category were announced on Friday 2 November 2018 at an evening event which was opened by Simone Fountain OAM who commented on the resilience of the Pilbara community sector, “even when it gets hard, you love it, you stick with it”.

#### **WINNERS**

##### **Category 1 – Most Outstanding (small organisation)**

Karingal Neighbourhood Centre, Paraburdoo

##### **Category 2 – Most Outstanding (medium organisation)**

Hedland Well Women’s Centre, South Hedland

##### **Category 3 – Most Outstanding (large Organisation)**

Empowering People in Communities Inc.

##### **Category 4 – Aboriginal Organisation/Incorporation for Outstanding Commitment to Best Practice**

Ngarliyarndu Bindirri Aboriginal Coporation (NBAC), Roebourne

##### **Category 5 – Outstanding demonstration of innovation practice**

Blue Beanie Projects, Karratha

##### **Category 6 – Outstanding demonstration social enterprise**

Brida Pty Ltd, Roebourne

##### **Category 7 – Best Pilbara Organisation**

Hedland Well Women’s Centre, South Hedland

##### **Category 8 – Outstanding demonstration of leadership**

David Walker, Pansy Hicks, Violet Samson & Nellie Connors, 6718 Leadership Team, Roebourne

##### **Category 9 – Outstanding demonstration of leadership (young person)**

Cody Betts, Hedland

##### **Category 10 – Volunteer of the year**

Kate Field-Akred, Hedland

##### **Category 11 – People’s Choice Award**

Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation, Onslow

#### **Additional quotes:**

- “In the Pilbara we all wear many hats to contribute to our community”, Pablo Miller, MC.
- “We don’t do it for the awards, we do it for the heart”, Stephanie Soter, EPIC Inc. CEO.
- “We don’t count the numbers or the dollars, we count the people, how many families are we helping? Are we changing? We do it because we love the smiles. We do it for everyone”, Mr David Walker, Ngarluma elder and award recipient (Category 4, 6 & 8).

**Further media contact: Karen Armstrong, Pilbara for Purpose, [pilbara4purpose@gmail.com](mailto:pilbara4purpose@gmail.com), 0456 382 351. James Jarvis, Pilbara for Purpose Chair, [ceo@nintirri.org.au](mailto:ceo@nintirri.org.au), 0459 191 400.**

**Additional category winner images available upon request.**

**Facebook: @PilbaraForPurpose**

**Website: <http://pilbaraforpurpose.org.au/>**