Northern Territory Disability Services Inclusion Awards

Nomination Information Booklet 2021

[Ntdsa.org.au](https://www.nds.org.au/northern-territory-disability-services-and-inclusion-awards/ntdsia-nominate)

National Disability Services

# Minister’s Message

The Northern Territory Government is proud to continue to support the NT Disability Services and Inclusion Awards. The NT Disability Services and Inclusion Awards provide an opportunity to formally recognise and celebrate the achievements of organisations, businesses, nongovernment and government services and programs that demonstrate outstanding commitment to improving the lives of people with disability.

I would like to acknowledge the vital role that these individuals and organisations play in the lives of people with disability throughout the Territory. Their dedication to the community and to the people they serve is admirable, and often goes without thanks. The NT Disability Services and Inclusion Awards recognises these hardworking individuals and organisations.

If you know someone like a neighbour, a friend, a family member or an organisation that is making a difference to the quality of life and the wellbeing of people with disability, I would strongly encourage you to please show your appreciation by nominating them for an Award. I look forward to seeing lots of nominations from all regions of the Territory.

The Hon Kate Worden MLA

Minister for Disabilities

# 2020 Outstanding Disability Service Employee and Overall Award for Excellence Winner

## Felicity Pidgeon, Territory Therapy Solutions

Felicity has been working in the remote disability setting for the past 15 years to provide services to people living in remote communities in the Northern Territory. She previously worked for Disability services in the remote team and is now working for Territory Therapy Solutions, with NDIS participants in communities such as: Maningrida; Milingimbi; Yirrkala; Gupuwiyak; Ngukurr; Kalkaringdji and many more.

Felicity is well known within remote communities and easily identified by community members by her long red hair and cheery smile. She provides a high level of communication to clients and coordinators after each visit, to ensure they are aware of treatment and interventions. This includes follow up phone calls to clients and written feedback to coordinators after each visit.

Felicity provides a flexible service to ensure she is culturally appropriate and holds the clients best interest in the highest regard.

Felicity’s clients love her as evidenced by the many remote indigenous clients who come to see her, when visiting Darwin. Despite her massive caseload of over 100 clients, Felicity works on nights and weekends to ensure she is getting reports written and follow up completed so that her clients are receiving an excellent service and follow up. Felicity has completed complex home modification and skill building in community that has led to clients being able to remain living on their lands and not be required to move to Darwin for appropriate housing and supports. Felicity ensures she links in with schools and service providers to improve participation and build skills with children living in remote communities.

Felicity has shown innovation in working with clients, for example organising for local wheelchair services to education a client on how to service his wheelchair, to negate the need to travel to Darwin, or be without his wheelchair.

Felicity dedicates herself to completing extensive professional development in a range of different areas to ensure she is providing evidenced based interventions and services to her clients. Felicity has recently completed DIR Floortime training to assist in providing education to parents of children with autism, living in community.

Felicity consistently works to provide services such a broad number of clients and communities to ensure they have choice and control over their lives and increased participation in important tasks and roles.

# About the Awards

## The Northern Territory Government, in collaboration with National Disability

## Services Northern Territory (NDS NT), proudly present the 2021 Northern Territory Disability Services and Inclusion Awards (the Awards).

The Awards recognise exceptional individuals, businesses, organisations, government departments and programs working in the disability sector that demonstrate outstanding commitment to improving the lives of people with disability.

The eight 2021 Disability Services and Inclusion Award categories are:

1. Emerging Leader
2. Excellence in Improving Learning and Development
3. Excellence in Improving Participation
4. Excellence in Promoting Community Awareness
5. Excellence in Innovation
6. Excellence in Advocacy and Promotion of Human Rights
7. Excellence in Strategy that improves Access and Inclusion
8. Outstanding Disability Service Employee

The Northern Territory Government is the major sponsor of the 2021 Northern Territory

Disability Services and Inclusion Awards and patron for the 2021 Overall Award for Excellence chosen from all category winners.

# Who can be nominated?

All individuals including families and carers, organisations, businesses, government departments and programs that work with or for people with disability in the Northern Territory are eligible to be nominated.

Nominations are encouraged from across the Northern Territory.

## **Nominees must**

* be a current resident of the Northern Territory or be an organisation located in the Northern Territory; and
* agree to be nominated and understand that their information provided in the nomination form (with the exception of contact details) may be used for publicity and promotional purposes.

## **Who can nominate?**

Anyone can nominate an individual, business, organisation or community group they know, work with, or have had an experience with for an Award. In particular, nominations are welcomed from people with disability and/or their families, peers, staff and managers.

## **Nomination forms**

Nomination forms for each category are downloadable from ntdsa.org.au/nominate

## **Judging Process**

The judging panel will be an independent group comprising industry professionals and stakeholders. All nominations are assessed against the specific criteria developed for each category.

## **Award Ceremony**

The Award Ceremony will be held on Saturday 6 November 2021 at the Darwin Convention Centre and via livestream.

All nominees and their nominators will be notified and encouraged to watch the Awards Ceremony.

# Award Categories

## **Emerging Leader**

This Award recognises an individual who is an emerging leader and who demonstrates dedication to and skill in influencing, motivating and leading others to improve the lives of people with disability. The recipient of this award will be an individual who displays outstanding leadership abilities.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in any or all of the following areas:

* Leadership in the development and implementation of initiatives to improve outcomes for people with disability.
* Actively and visibly championing organisational change and/or continuous improvement within the organisation to provide improved services for people with disability.
* Mentoring of co-workers and supporting their skills development.

Nominees in the Emerging Leader category must have worked in their current role for less than five years and must be currently employed in the disability sector.

This Award is sponsored by Life Without Barriers

## **Excellence in Improving Learning and Development**

This Award recognises an individual, business or organisation making a significant contribution to improving learning and development opportunities for people with disability, including helping people with disability to reach their full potential.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in any or all of the following areas:

* Development or provision of programs that assist people with disability to prepare for or access education and/or employment.
* Development or implementation of programs that assist people with disability to achieve outcomes that increase their independence.
* Development or implementation of programs that assist people with disability in their personal development.
* Development or implementation of programs that assist parents with children with disability.

Nominees as organisations in the Excellence in Improving Learning and Development category must have been operating the nominated service for a minimum of 6 months and must be located in the Northern Territory.

This Award is sponsored by Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment

## **Excellence in Improving Participation**

This Award recognises an individual, business or organisation making a significant contribution to providing and/or improving personal and community participation for people with disability.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in any or all of the following areas:

* Enabling people with disability to connect with their family, friends, communities and community life.
* Providing services applicable to a client’s identity, age, interests, goals, aspirations, heritage and culture.
* Supporting people with disability to achieve their goals.

Nominees as organisations in the Excellence in Improving Participation category must have been operating the nominated service for a minimum of 6 months and must be located in the Northern Territory.

This Award is sponsored by TIO

## **Excellence in Promoting Community Awareness**

This Award recognises an individual, business or organisation making a significant contribution to positively raising awareness of disability issues. Examples may include a campaign, event, publication or community strategy.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in any or all of the following areas:

* Commitment to promoting the valued role of people with disability in the wider community.
* Commitment to promoting the rights of people with disability in the wider community.
* Commitment to educating the wider community on issues relating to disability.
* Commitment to positively raising awareness of disability in the wider community.

Nominees as organisations in the Excellence in Promoting Community Awareness category must have been operating the nominated service for a minimum of 6 months and must be located in the Northern Territory.

This Award is sponsored by NDS

## **Excellence in Innovation**

This Award recognises an individual, business or organisation whose innovative, fresh and creative approach has made a significant difference in the lives of people with disability.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in the creation or delivery of any or all of the following areas:

* Products or resources to assist people with disability.
* Innovative services to assist people with disability.
* Innovative processes or procedures within an organisation that makes a significant difference to people with disability.
* Innovative programs to assist people with disability.

Nominees as organisations in the Excellence in Innovation category must have been operating the nominated service for a minimum of 6 months and must be located in the Northern Territory.

This Award is sponsored by HPA – Helping People Achieve

## **Outstanding Disability Service Employee**

The recipient of this Award will be an individual who is recognised for their consistent contribution to their workplace, they are highly respected and demonstrate outstanding skill in their field of work.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in any or all of the following areas:

* Providing high quality care and support that maximises independence and ability for choice for people with disability.
* Supporting people with disability to not only be involved with their family and/ or direct support networks, but with the community as a whole.
* Improving community access and assistance for people with disability.
* Providing high quality operational support to organisations providing service to people with disability.
* Demonstrated commitment to the disability service organisation’s purpose, employees, vendors and clients.

Nominees in the Outstanding Disability Service Employee category must be currently employed in the disability sector and must be located in the Northern Territory.

This Award is sponsored by Somerville

## **Excellence in Strategy That Improves Access And Inclusion**

This Award recognises a mainstream business or community organisation that has applied a strategy to engage people with disability, their families and carers. The recipient of this Award will be recognised for their achievement in developing and implementing innovative services or products to provide greater opportunities for people with disability to participate in local community life.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in any or all if the following areas:

* Removing barriers to participation of people with disability in the community.
* Strategies and actions that give people with disability a voice in the community and the capacity to influence the design of services, programmes and infrastructure that impact their lives.
* greater access to mainstream services and support; and
* improved access to:
  + the physical and built environment;
  + information technology (IT);
  + social and cultural activities;
  + arts, sports and recreational activities;
  + Employment or other economic opportunities.

Nominees in this category must be a business or community organisation operating for a minimum of 6 months and must be located in the Northern Territory.

This Award is sponsored by Carpentaria

## **Excellence in Advocacy and Promotion of Human Rights**

This Award recognises an individual, business or organisation making a significant contribution in supporting people with a disability, including assisting people with a disability to speak up for themselves and promoting their rights.

Nominees must demonstrate excellence in any or all of the following areas:

* A co-production approach to reviewing organisational policy and practice to reduce barriers and optimise opportunities for promoting rights, dignity, freedom and choice for service users with a disability
* Human rights training for people with a disability, families and carers, and/or staff leading to changes in outcomes for people with a disability
* A positive behaviour support program that significantly reduces the use of restrictive practices
* Partnerships and collaborations that optimise opportunities for promoting rights or freedom of choice
* Capacity building programs with a focus on human rights
* New and unique ways that are responsive to needs based upon freedom of choice.

Nominees as organisations in this category must have been operating the nominated service for a minimum of 6 months and must be located in the Northern Territory.

This Award is sponsored by the Office of the Public Guardian

# Information

## **2021 Overall Award For Excellence**

The 2021 Overall Award for Excellence recipient will be chosen from the winners of each of the Award categories.

Sponsored by the Department of Health

## **People’s Choice Award**

The People’s Choice aims to celebrate and raise awareness of the Finalists’ achievements, the public will have the opportunity to vote for two Awards in this category one individual and one business/ organisation.

Like our Facebook page facebook.com/NorthernTerritoryDisabilityServicesAwards to keep updated with information on this category.

This category is sponsored by Quality Innovation Performance and TeamHEALTH

# Completing the Nomination Form

It is important to ensure the nomination addresses the following criteria:

* Describe the specific achievements of the nominee as they relate to the specific Award Category.
* Explain how the achievements have made a tangible difference to the lives of people with disability, their families or carers, their workplace or business.
* More than one person can provide information to a nomination.
* Please contact NDS NT at confs@nds.org.au for any queries. Some points to consider when writing your application include:
* Support your claims relating to the individual, business, organisation or program’s attributes or qualities with examples that will be easily understood by the assessment panel – avoid jargon.
* Either full sentences or dot points are acceptable.
* Keep answers concise and to the point.
* Avoid repeating examples.
* Keep a copy of the nomination form and any attachments, as these documents cannot be returned.

Nominations close 5pm Wednesday, 29 September 2021. Nominations received after this date will not be accepted.

# Sponsors

The 2021 Northern Territory Disability Services Awards are proudly sponsored by:

Northern Territory Government

Carpentaria

Earlystart

HPA

HESTA

Life Without Barriers

NDS

Office of the Public Guardian

QIP

Somerville

TeamHEALTH

TIO