

PeakCare Awards

The DEADLY

(No translation needed)

The DEADLY Award Candidate Nomination Statements

Teaghan Basaraba, Safe Places for Children

Nominated by a number of people, the following are extracts from the nominations that were received:

- *Teaghan has worked alongside Indigenous youth in the out of home care space for over two years. During this time, she has emotionally supported and advocated for the needs of many First Nations children by creating culturally safe spaces, enrolling them in education and ensuring their health and therapy needs are being met*
- *Teaghan has shown passion and dedication to young people. Teaghan is mature far beyond her years and clearly loves what she does, particularly advocating for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who are at risk*
- *Teaghan is proud of her culture and is a role model. She is committed and cares deeply for her clients and the young people she cares for. She is empowering young people to be the best versions of themselves they can be*

Russell Bennet, Anglicare Southern Queensland

Russell, a Gubbi Gubbi man, has dedicated his life to empowering people address their barriers, make positive choices, and improve their life and employment outcomes. Employed by Anglicare Southern Queensland, Russell works with young people, families and professionals in preventing children from entering care, as well as working with children who are in care and the carers who support them. Russell is regarded as the 'Steve Irwin of Flora' as he displays a similar demeanour and creatively uses his time to reach a wide audience and actively connect the community through:

- individual and group mentoring sessions with children focussing on addressing barriers, exploring cultural backgrounds, taking children back to country, grounding children in country, building self-esteem and resilience, promoting positive behaviour choices, respecting Elders, and improving employment outcomes
- bush tucker gardens at local schools
- Men's Shed participation, and
- starting the TECKnology Indigenous Corp providing work experience and employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island young people.

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Michael Currie, Family Matters Co-Chair

Taking up the role of Family Matters Queensland co-chair for the first time this year, Michael has been instrumental in leading the group to trial a new National Family Matters Reflective Practice Tool. Michael encourages campaign supporters to use the tool to assess their performance in relation to the campaign principles and building blocks, while building community connections to ensure there is a well-rounded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspective included in the assessment. Michael is driving continued development of the tool at both the state and national level, and believes that better implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle and Family Matters principles will result in better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

Wynetta Dewis, Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service

In 2019, Wynetta Dewis, a proud Torres Strait Islander woman, became the CEO of Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service (QIFVLS). QIFVLS is a not-for-profit Aboriginal controlled organisation that provides free legal support services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sufferers of domestic and family violence servicing over 50 Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities throughout Queensland. During her time at QIFVLS, Wynetta has been instrumental in driving and developing Health Justice Partnerships with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services. These partnerships and collaborations recognise a mutual understanding that both services need to be responsive, innovative, and culturally competent in delivering services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In 2020 Wynetta established the Our Communities Matter initiative. The initiative aims to increase communities' awareness about critical issues and the work QIFVLS does in supporting the community to combat these social issues.

Mark Kucks, Hutchinson Builders Statim Yaga Program

Mark Kucks works through the Hutchinson Builders Statim Yaga program to ensure Indigenous young people are given a fair go and are supported to achieve their dreams of working within the trade industry. Mark goes above and beyond to ensure each young person is successful within the program from ensuring key industry partners are on board all the way down to ensuring each participant has transport to the job site. Mark truly is DEADLY and works to ensure young people and their families can not only achieve their dreams but works to make industry changes to ensure all value and support employment parity.

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Jarred Martyn, Safe Places for Children

I have observed this candidate as having always been a consistent, selfless worker who always puts the children she looks after first and always ensures, even on her day off, that things are running smoothly and everything is organised and clear for the person who takes over her shift. She fights hard to give the kids she looks after the best experience for them. All of this along with a genuine love for her job is why I nominate this candidate for the Deadly Award!!

Lyn Schonefeld, Life Without Barriers

Lyn Schonefeld is nominated for the DEADLY Award. Lyn is an excellent practitioner who provides support through a nurturing and caring approach.

Ashley Wilkinson

Nominated by a number of people, the following are extracts from the nominations that were received:

- *Ashley always takes time to educate himself and the people around him on current social issues. This makes for an innovator and conscientious colleague*
- *Ashley has an obvious commitment to ensuring his education regarding social issues is always current and relevant, which is strongly highlighted in his role as a youth worker*
- *Ashley is highly aware of current social issues and strives for improving outcomes for clients*
- *Ashley takes pride in being inclusive and affirming in his practice. Ash ensures he surrounds himself with diversity and embraces it too.*
- *Great guy! Highly aware of current social issues and how they impact the people he works with. Works hard to advocate for improved outcomes for these people*

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Daniel Yasso, Central Queensland Indigenous Development (CQID)

A proud Aboriginal and Australian South Sea Island man, Daniel has worked with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Queensland. Daniel brought his skills in community engagement to the child safety sector in 2011, when he commenced working with Central Queensland Indigenous Development. In the last ten years, Daniel has engaged with traditional owners' groups, such as Butchulla AC and Darumbal Peoples AC, as well as community service providers to achieve improved wellbeing opportunities and options for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. Daniel saw a gap in support services for Indigenous men, young and old, to help them develop their ability to be positively contribute to and engage with their own families and communities. Daniel has established Men's groups across Indigenous nations to support cultural practice and Men's business. Daniel has supported the coordination and delivery of a series of Rites of Passage camps which have included young men from across Central Queensland and the Fraser Coast.