



Vote for your preferred candidates

Nominations for the DEADLY Award

**Candice Butler, Director of Innovation and Practice Development,
Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection
Peak**

I nominate Ms Candice Butler, Director of Innovation and Practice Development, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak (QATSICPP) for the DEADLY Award. Candice is an inspiration to us all. Whether she is delivering a presentation at a PeakCare forum or being interviewed on radio, Candice never fails to impress due to her impeccable knowledge, her passionate commitment and her warm, engaging manner. The quality of the work she performs for QATSICPP is outstanding. Candice has emerged as a formidable spokesperson and leader. She is truly DEADLY, a LEGEND in the making!

Coolamon Group – Family and Disability Services, UnitingCare

The Coolamon Core Group is made up of 16 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff across Queensland. The collective provides opportunities for change and holds space for cultural business across UnitingCare. The Coolamon Group supports and encourages all services to strengthen their cultural knowledge by:

- Sharing/exchanging cultural experience and information to support staff learning and development*
- Embedding and researching cultural protocols and practice*
- Ensuring our services and their delivery are culturally safe*
- Initiating purposeful gatherings and events to increase knowledge*
- Offering cultural representation in meetings and conferences*
- Delivering cultural reviews of services*
- Embedding the UnitingCare Reconciliation Action Plan in the work we do, and*
- Exploring opportunities for continuous improvement.*

“The Coolamon Group will help guide and support our workers and trainees in all efforts to ensure they are kept strong to continue in their work roles, knowing they are supported when need be.” (Aunty Dulcie Bronsch, Senior Coolamon Member)

Sarah De Lemos and Tarsha Jones from the Institute for Urban and Indigenous Health and The Benevolent Society Partnership for Bringing the Early Years Approach to the Community

Sarah De Lemos and Tarsha Jones have worked hard to bring these two organisations – the Institute for Urban and Indigenous Health and The Benevolent Society - together to ensure that The NDIA's Early Years approach is accessible to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community. They have worked closely with community to design an approach that reaches families where they are able to improve developmental outcomes for children.

Delegated Authority Early Adopter Sites in Rockhampton and the Sunshine Coast – partnership of Refocus, Central Queensland Indigenous Development (CQID) and local Child Safety Service Centres

These two sites have courageously pioneered implementation of this State's shift to voice and choice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their

families to have child safety decisions made by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisations through the legislative process known as 'delegated authority'. This has required the development of strong partnerships between Refocus, CQID and the local Child Safety Service Centres and extensive co-design work to articulate what the legislative provisions need to look like on the ground to make a difference and to embody the principles of self-determination and empowerment. On this date, over 40 children across the two sites are subject to delegated decision making including 11 who have been reunified with family. The sites have been able to demonstrate that this is achievable and impactful. The sites have generated learnings for the State-wide scale-up including compelling case studies.

KICS (Kummara and Infinity Community Solutions) Indigenous Kinship and Foster Care Service

KICS is nominated for providing quality support and monitoring to Indigenous carers across Brisbane caring for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and ensuring they remain connected to culture and community. KICS are also nominated for their commitment to kin mapping for Indigenous children, connecting them to community and placing them with family where possible.