



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**22 AUGUST 2017**

### **Cannonvale's Casey Dickinson wins national award**

**Casey Dickinson, Employment Consultant at CoAct Community Solutions, Cannonvale is the 2017 winner of the National Employment Services Association (NESA) Bright Star Award. She joins 6 other people and organisations honoured in the NESA Awards for Excellence ceremony held this evening at the Pullman Melbourne on the Park, as part of NESA's 2017 National Conference.**

The Bright Star Award is not given out every year. It is reserved for young professionals in employment services who show exceptional talent.

"It's rare to see such an alliance of professional competencies in someone so young," said Sally Sinclair, CEO of NESA. "I'm very glad to see her outstanding work recognised through this special award."

At just 21, Casey found herself in charge of a caseload of over 200 clients, many of whom had been displaced by Cyclone Debbie and who were in dire straits. Casey quickly impressed with her maturity, dedication and knowledge of the community and labour market.

"You don't strike people with her work ethic often," said Peter Lindsay, Casey's manager. "She has a great rapport with all stakeholders and she's always looking for ways to improve people's lives and outcomes."

Casey has almost single-handedly brought the Cannonvale site from a 2 Star rating to the highest possible rating of 5 star stars in just two short years. The Star ratings are independently calculated by the Federal Government Department of Employment, and reflect an employment services provider's effectiveness in getting people into work.

Casey is a level-headed and organised young woman, but she is also keenly attuned to the personal nature of the work she does. "Everyone is human. Everyone needs to be treated with respect and listened to," she says.

As one of Casey's clients wrote, "For such a young person, exceptional empathy, communication skills and professionalism. I'm extremely impressed."

NESA joins CoACT Community Solutions in congratulating Casey on her well-deserved win.

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