



MEDIA RELEASE

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Teamwork honoured in national disability employment award nominations

“When employment services and employers work together, barriers to employment begin to tumble,” said NESA CEO Sally Sinclair. “This year’s Innovation in Disability Employment finalists are all outstanding examples of how collaboration can improve the lives of people with disability.”

The Awards for Excellence are offered each year by the National Employment Services Association (NESA) for outstanding performance and achievement within the employment services sector. The **Innovation in Disability Employment - Team** Award goes to employment service providers and employment organisations who have worked together to assist people with a disability.

This year’s finalists are:

Tradco Pty Ltd, nominated by The Royal Society of the Blind

Tradco produces and distributes a range of traditional and contemporary architectural hardware. Over the past 12 months, Tradco has welcomed five vision impaired job seekers from The Royal Society of the Blind, which equates to 15.6% of their workforce and displays an inspiring belief in what these employees contribute to their business. Tradco and RSB have worked together to make Tradco’s policies and processes more vision impaired friendly. Tradco’s attitude has been excellent, working closely with RSB to ensure that vision impaired employees are made to feel as valued as everyone else in their workplace

McDonalds Mayfield and Industrial Drive, nominated by Castle Personnel

McDonalds and Castle Personnel have maintained an effective partnership over many years, thanks to McDonalds’ supportive nature, recruitment inclusion of people with a disability and flexibility in rostering around study and caring commitments. 26 participants have been placed in employment since 2013. Many of these participants have subsequently been able to exit the Disability Employment Services Program completely, which is a proud achievement for the participant, for McDonalds, and for Castle Personnel.

Mount Barker DES Team, nominated by Maxima Group

The Mount Barker DES Team led by Jacqueline Fullerton showed an innovative approach in advocating and promoting the business case for disability employment, capturing significant job opportunities tailored to the strengths of DES clients. Jacqueline and her DES Team consistently demonstrated genuine person centred services when dealing with complex challenges such as family violence, mental health issues and social isolation. The team was a major contributor to Maxima’s success in Mount Barker.

The winner of the **Innovation in Disability Employment - Team Award** will be announced at the NESA National Conference, to be held in Brisbane on the 8th-9th of August, 2018.

The **National Employment Services Association Innovation in Disability Employment – Team Award** is sponsored by the Australian Government - JobAccess.

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