

## Media Release



### **Finalists announced in 2022 NESA Awards for Excellence**

The 2022 finalists for the National Employment Services Association (NESA) Awards for Excellence have been announced.

The award ceremony, which is set to take place at Sydney's Sofitel Wentworth on Wednesday October 5th, highlights shining stars in the country's employment services within three categories. The occasion also celebrates NESA's 25th year in leading the sector.

Minister for Social Services Hon Amanda Rishworth will also be in attendance and presenting awards on the night.

From individuals that have overcome adversity to thrive in employment, employers that have put inclusion at the forefront of their business models and employment services consultants going above and beyond - - the awards aim to highlight the commitment the employment services sector has made to improve individuals', families' and communities' economic and social well-being through employment inclusion.

The awards are split into three categories – Achiever of the Year, Employment Consultant of the Year and Champion Employer of the Year.

CEO of NESA Sally Sinclair says the awards are an opportunity for employment service providers' to be acknowledged for their innovation and support in creating pathways between disadvantaged individuals' and employers' across the country.

Following the Government's recent Jobs and Skills Summit, the focus on getting more disadvantaged Australians into the workforce and creating more accessible and inclusive workplaces has never been more in the spotlight.

She says the awards set a 'benchmark for excellence' within the employment services sector.

'Every single one of our finalists are truly inspirational.. Whether it be overcoming unimaginable hurdles to find themselves in their dream job, putting wraparound support in place to create an inclusive workplace for people from all walks of life or dedicating themselves to improving job outcomes for disadvantaged Australians - each one of them are role models and deserve to be acknowledged.'

The awards are also a chance to raise wider public awareness around the adversity and disadvantage that are experienced by unemployed people and the effort required to overcome barriers to achieve employment.

Winners receive invitations and support to attend the Champion's Reception and the Gala Awards Dinner, a prestigious Award Trophy and promotion on NESAs website.

**ENDS**

## **2022 Finalists:**

### **Achiever of the Year - Sponsored by NESAs**

- **Dane Erarp** (nominated by MatchWorks)
- **Darren Stokes** (nominated by Sureway Employment and Training)
- **Francine Pollard** (nominated by Asuria)

### **Employment Consultant of the Year - Sponsored by Aware Super**

- **Danielle LeCouteur** (Jobfind)
- **Amie Fazekas** (Sureway Employment and Training)
- **Di McIntyre** (Asuria)
- **Mikayla Birnie** (Workways Australia)

### **Champion Employer of the Year - Sponsored by Jobbank**

- **A & A Electroplaters** (nominated by Jobfind)
- **NF McDonnell & Sons** (nominated by SYC Limited)
- **Multhana** (nominated by MAX)