



Westfield

Local Heroes

2018

Westfield Local Heroes were nominated and voted for by their communities, with the three successful Westfield Local Heroes per centre each awarded a \$10,000 grant to support their affiliated organisation's work, programs or activities.



Westfield

Local Heroes

In the first year of the Westfield Local Heroes program, we received an overwhelming response and many heart-warming stories after asking the local community to nominate individuals who promote wellbeing and harmony in their communities.

We congratulate every one of our nominees and recognise the important contribution they make to their local community.



Westfield

MARION

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Jenny Joy Parents Who Have Been There

Compassionate, Selfless, Generous

How a challenging experience spurred a mum into action

Jenny Joy knows how isolating it can feel for parents who have a premature baby or a baby who requires extended neonatal care.

Both her sons required neonatal care, experiences that left her wanting to give back to other parents facing similar challenges. That's how her support group, Parents Who Have Been There (PWHBT), was born.

There can be weeks or months in the neonatal unit and it's difficult for family and friends to fully understand what parents are going through, she says.

"A lot of families go through this all the time and it's such a different journey."

PWHBT volunteers regularly visit three of Adelaide's neonatal units, providing support in the form of morning tea; Dinner on Us; or simply a listening ear. They also reach out to parents in regional areas with essentials packs and an offer of food hampers.

"It's like anything in life, if someone comes alongside you and they get what you're going through, it's a beautiful lifeline," says Jenny.

The support is ongoing.

Jenny says health visits and playgroups that focus on developmental milestones can be confronting and isolating for parents if their baby experiences delays after their neonatal journey.

PWHBT runs a playgroup which is open to any ex-neonatal family in Adelaide. It also has an active private Facebook group so parents can connect with others who have been there.

Jenny says being a Westfield Local Hero is humbling and very exciting, but also surreal.

The support her nomination received in the local community was "incredibly touching."

PWHBT will use the \$10,000 Westfield Local Heroes grant to fund its 10th anniversary celebrations with a community family fun day and to increase the frequency of dinners and morning teas for parents.



Jannet Stolinski Lutheran Community Care

Devoted, Passionate, Generous

Jannet gently helps new refugees navigate life in Australia

Arriving in Australia as a refugee can be daunting, particularly if your English is not so fluent.

That's why Jannet Stolinski is available to personally meet new refugees in southern Adelaide and help them to assimilate into the community.

She is fluent in Arabic, so she is a comforting presence and is able to engage quickly and deeply with people who come from international trouble spots such as Afghanistan or Syria.

As an employee of Lutheran Community Care, she gently guides them through health and community services, helps them fill in forms and explains general correspondence.

Jannet's own family came to Australia as migrants. Her mother was from Egypt and her father from Lebanon. "I watched how difficult it was for my parents. From a very, very young age I knew I wanted to help," she says.

One of Jannet's many innovations has been to set up a network of bilingual doctors and dentists. And thanks to a partnership with the City of Marion Council, she has pioneered a community program for isolated mothers, complete with creche facilities.

"It was really important to get a program up and running that they can bring their kids along to so they can get out there."

Many of the people Jannet works with experienced significant trauma before arriving in Australia. So, an important part of her role is to be an ongoing presence in their lives and to lend an empathetic ear as they relate their life stories.

Jannet says her work with refugees has taught her a lot about life and humanity. "Their resilience and their compassion and just the fact that they are able to get up in the morning and do what they need to do, it's so incredible to me."

She says being voted a Westfield Local Hero feels fantastic and she is grateful for the support from the community.

Lutheran Community Care will use its \$10,000 Westfield grant to fund support services for new migrant and refugee women in South Australia, including supported visits to libraries and community, shopping and recreation centres to introduce them to the services and options available to them.



Lorraine Rayner International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

*Hardworking, Resilient,
Compassionate*

Lorraine adds colour to the lives of girls and young women

Igniting community spirit in girls is what the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls is all about. And it's a spirit that has warmed Lorraine Rayner's heart for 50 years.

The group for girls and young women aged 7 to 21 aims to instil community caring in members through volunteering and fundraising for local charities.

It's been a lifelong mission for Lorraine, who joined the international group when she was 12 and is now one of two Australian leaders.

"I enjoyed the social side but it also instilled in me community service and the knowledge that there's always someone worse off than what you are," she says.

As a senior mentor, she's had the privilege of influencing generations of girls, helping them develop skills in everything from leadership to public speaking and decision-making to teamwork.

"It's very rewarding to think I had a little bit of input along the way," she says of watching girls go on to pursue their life dreams.

As a Rainbow member, you always have friends wherever you go, says Lorraine, who is still in touch with American Rainbow girls she met 48 years ago.

To her, it's vital to have an inclusive membership where everyone

is welcome and accepted. One of her most precious memories is when a vision impaired girl joined the group and learned the spoken rituals by listening to them on a cassette player.

"She was one of the best ritualists that we've ever had."

Lorraine and the girls are "over the moon" that she has been voted a Westfield Local Hero.

The organisation will use its \$10,000 grant to fund free school holiday activities including lunch for the local community. The money will also go towards updating marketing materials and the purchase of a fridge and oven to support catering activities.

Your 2018 Finalists

Janine McIntosh | Port Noarlunga Sea Scout Group

Committed, Selfless, Determined

The Port Noarlunga Sea Scout Group provides youth development opportunities to build resilient and confident boys and girls aged 6 to 25 in the Joey Scout, Cub Scout, Scout, Venturer Scout and Rover Scout sections. Janine provides effective leadership to their scout group and supports Scout Leaders, adult helpers and group committee members to ensure that the group operates effectively for the youth members.

Ben Scales | Time for Kids

Committed, Selfless, Humble

Time for Kids delivers life-changing programs in support of vulnerable and disadvantaged South Australian children and young people. Ben plays a pivotal leadership role in Time for Kids through involvement in their board, which he has been a member of since 2009, including over five years' service in the role of chair.

Melanie Tate | Puddle Jumpers Inc

Driven, Selfless, Passionate

Puddle Jumpers Inc is an Adelaide Not-For-Profit charity, which provides camps, activities and a huge range of other support services for children/youths (particularly those not living with their birth parents) and families, who are experiencing disadvantage in various forms. As Founder of Puddle Jumpers Inc, Melanie works tirelessly to promote the organisation and its' myriad of support services to South Australia.

Recognising all of our 2018 Nominees

Josephine ANDERSON

Adelaide Volunteer Branch of
Make-A-Wish Australia

Mitchell ANDERSON

Uniting Communities –
Rubys Reunification Service

Paul BARNDEN

Goodwood Saints football Club Inc

Azzy BATIC

Azzurro Arts

Veronica BOULTON

South Australian Youth Brass

Laura BOWMAN

Bright Brainz

Leighton BOYD

MarionLIFE Community
Services Inc

Helen CUTLER

Seaford Storm Netball Club

Darren DAVIS

Get Home Safe Foundation

Emmah EVANS

Cure4CF Foundation

Melissa HOLLAND

Guide Dogs Association of
SA and NT Inc

Jenny JOY

Parents Who Have Been There

Susan LEE

Angel Gowns for Australian
Angel Babies Inc

Lindy LEWIS

Chiton Rocks SLSC

Janine McINTOSH

Port Noarlunga Sea Scout Group
(affiliated with Scouts SA)

Megan NEINDORF

Kenilworth Football Club

Mark NEVILLE FRANKLIN

Camden Park Scout Group

David NICHOLAS

G McEwin

Lorraine RAYNER

International Order of the
Rainbow for Girls

Derek ROBERTSON

Prostate Cancer Foundation of
Australia (SA & NT Branch)

Ben SCALES

Time for Kids

Raf SHAW

Ancient Wells/Ramoth Gilead Inc

Jannet STOLINSKI

Lutheran Community Care

Melanie TATE

Puddle Jumpers Inc

Ben TAYLOR

Morphettville Park Football Club

Joanna ZEITZ

Relationships Australia South
Australia



If you or anyone you know would like more information on what support is available:

AUSTRALIA

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467

Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800

MensLine: 1300 78 99 78

Beyond Blue: 1300 22 4636

1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732

NEW ZEALAND

Lifeline: 0800 543 354

Suicide Crisis Helpline: 0508 828 865

Kidsline: 0800 54 37 54

Depression Helpline: 0800 111 757

Samaritans: 0800 726 666

Family Violence Information Line: 0800 456 450



SCENTRE GROUP

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