

Westfield Local Heroes is a recognition and awards program that discovers and celebrates people across Australia and New Zealand who make a positive impact to their local community and environment.

Individuals are nominated by their local communities and a public vote determines the successful 2020 nominees for every Westfield centre.

The successful heroes are each awarded \$10,000 for their affiliated organisations.

Westfield Jocal Heroes

Since the program began, we have awarded \$3.62 million to 363 community organisations.

Every year, we recognise more than 120 Westfield Local Heroes and provide more than \$1.2M in community grants to their affiliated organisations.

We congratulate all the 2020 nominees for being recognised by their communities and thank them for the important contribution they all make.

westfield.com.au/local-heroes westfield.co.nz/local-heroes

# Westfield Chatswood

NSW



Barbara Healy is 80 years old, and she is as passionate today about helping those in need as she was in 1964, when she first started volunteering for St Vincent de Paul Society.

During her long tenure as a volunteer, Barbara has been active in greater Chatswood and served as President of Chatswood Regional Council.

Barbara, a qualified clinical nurse who has worked in Canada, the USA and with the armed forces, is not the kind of person who waits for people in need to find her. She goes out looking for those who may be lonely, depressed or homeless.

She regularly travels to Waterloo, where she has teamed up with nuns and priests to help people in the area.

In Chatswood and Willoughby, Barbara worked with the council staff and the Ombudsman to help the poor and the needy. She also worked with the Willoughby Council to launch Bring your Bills Day to help people struggling to keep up with payments. "I always treat people in the same way I would like to be treated. I try not to judge or discriminate. I feel frustration, sadness and anger when I can't provide them with what they need. I called the Pope to ask for more assistance," says the courageous volunteer.

Westfield Local Heroes are nominated and voted for by their communities, with the three top finalists per Westfield centre each awarded a \$10,000 grant for their affiliated organisation.

St Vincent De Paul Society will use its grant to provide people with vouchers for food, electricity, water and gas.

Barbara's nominator says: "Barbara is always on the run to help where help is needed, to move the establishment into action to help the needy."



### **Barbara Healy**

**St Vincent De Paul Society** *Tireless, Selfless, Dedicated* 

### 80 years of goodness

"I always treat people in the same way I would like to be treated. I try not to judge or discriminate. I feel frustration, sadness and anger when I can't provide them with what they need. I called the Pope to ask for more assistance."

### **Cate Turner**

The Older Women's Network (NSW) Indomitable, Engaged, Active

## Flagbearer for healthy ageing

"In my long life, I have realised the best way to deal with personal adversity is to get active and campaign for change."

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#### As a volunteer in her early nineties, Cate Turner is a flag bearer for healthy ageing.

She knows from experience what it's like to rely on the aged pension as a result of what she feels is wage discrimination, and interrupting her career to care for her parents.

"This made me aware of the financial vulnerability of older women and motivated me to get active in doing something about it."

Cate has been an enthusiastic member of The Older Women's Network (OWN) since 1994 after retiring from a career in human resources.

She is an office-bearer on all three levels of OWN; local, state and national. Her work includes dementia support and OWN's Aboriginal Support Circle.

Cate is also a member of the Lane Cove Council's Age-Friendly Committee and helps develop strategies for older people in her community.

Cate was the first woman president of the Sydney Lions Club and organises the annual centenarians event at Government House. "In my long life, I have realised the best way to deal with personal adversity is to get active and campaign for change. I consider myself a fortunate person and find working on improving the lives of others is what keeps me going," Cate says.

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The Older Women's Network will use the grant to upgrade its computer and communications system.

Cate's nominator says: "Cate Turner is a shining example of how to grow old with dignity. She demonstrates every day how giving back to the community enhances people's quality of life. She contributes to respect for older Australians."

Lucy Jones started Neuroblastoma Australia after losing her two-anda-half-year-old daughter, Sienna, to cancer.

The aim was to provide support for others and fund research to protect other people from the grief she had experienced.

Lucy says: "Losing a child to cancer is simply dreadful. Watching them endure so many toxic and painful treatments over many months, and then for them not to be saved is simply heartbreaking. For me, in a modern society, it's not acceptable."

Lucy founded Neuroblastoma Australia 10 years ago to help fund the search for better and kinder treatments tailored to the individual child with the cancer.

"As a small charity, it has been a challenge to grow, get recognised and raise funds, but over 10 years we have raised over \$2.15 million and have supported many families."

Lucy has also recruited three eminent overseas experts in neuroblastoma to be on her scientific advisory board. Although Lucy was a co-founder of the charity, she now runs it almost single-handedly, with help from part-time employees and a small group of volunteers.

Much of her energy goes towards the charity's main event, Run2Cure, which has grown to more than 3000 runners and raises over \$250,000 for research every year.

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Neuroblastoma Australia will use its grant to fund digital marketing training for two part-time employees and run an advertising campaign to promote the Run2Cure.

Lucy's nominator says: "Lucy has put her own tragedy behind her and worked tirelessly for a decade to help others who are desperate in their fight against childhood cancer."

### Lucy Jones

TIMP

Neuroblastoma Australia Indefatigable, Passionate, Legendary

### In search of a cure

"As a small charity, it has been a challenge to grow, get recognised and raise funds, but over 10 years we have raised over \$2.15 million and have supported many families."

### Your 2020 Finalists

### Caitlin Tanaka

### Youth in Motion Incorporated

StreetWork Australia Limited

Jesse Ko

#### Paul Francis OAM

#### Humpty Dumpty Foundation

Caitlin Tanaka received help to overcome interrupted schooling and went on to complete a university degree. Now she is giving back.

Caitlin is grateful for the counselling she received and the sensitive care of the teachers at her private school. In return, she is volunteering as the Director of Operations at Youth in Motion (YIM), a non-profit start-up that helps young people overcome disadvantage.

"I have watched many of our students graduate from high school and move into higher education or employment, motivating me to continue my work," says Caitlin, who is studying for her MBA. As a youth worker at StreetWork, he helps people from all walks of life, including those affected by crime, mental illness, substance misuse, destructive relationships and homelessness.

One of Jesse's talents is making people feel safe and comfortable, which helps them open up about the areas of their life they want to improve.

Jesse has helped young people to reduce substance dependence, improve their performance at work and do better at school. In the 1990s, Paul Francis OAM started the Humpty Dumpty Foundation to raise funds for vital equipment needed to treat babies and children at the Royal North Shore Hospital. So far, he has raised more than \$6.7 million for 680 pieces of equipment that is saving lives across the hospital.

The foundation's website features a wish list of items to which donors can contribute. These range from a \$76,000 neonatal ventilator to a specialised drill that costs \$670.

Many people in Sydney have participated in Paul's flagship fundraisers, the Balmoral Burn funrun and the Great Humpty Ball.



### Recognising all of our 2020 nominees

Anna Humberstone Hummingsong Community Choir

**Jesse Ko** StreetWork Australia Limited

Cate Turner The Older Women's Network (NSW)

Caitlin Tanaka Youth In Motion Incorporated

Barbara Healy St Vincent De Paul Society

Lucy Jones Neuroblastoma Australia

Laraine Finlay Make A Wish

Paul Francis Humpty Dumpty Foundation

Andrew Geddes Raise Foundation

Jenny Bennell Raise Foundation

Nesha Hutchinson Street Buffet Timothy Cubbage Gordon District Cricket Club

Gary Heslin Artarmon Parklands Community Garden

Mel Howells 1St Chromehurst Scout Group

Libby Jones Raise Foundation

Janelle Lewis Raise Foundation

Matthew Browne Melanoma Institute Australia

**Nirmal Singh Hansra** Children's Tumour Foundation Of Australia

Angela Yi The Movement

**Donny Chien** Ywaste

Maria Chen StreetWork Australia Limited

**Denise Tan** StreetWork Australia Limited Stephanie Dos Santos SAFE

Carolynne Wawrzyniak St Vincent De Paul Society

**Austin Kim** Fita / Clean Up Australia

Kinga Barron Hercules House

Barbara Hill Bold Horizons

Doreen Smith Cake Decorators Association Of NSW 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

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