

*Westfield*

*Local Heroes*

2020

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*  
*Local 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](https://westfield.com.au/local-heroes)

[westfield.co.nz/local-heroes](https://westfield.co.nz/local-heroes)

# Westfield

## Garden City

### QLD

**Chris Boyle is transforming the lives of women and children at risk of domestic violence, with the help of a high-tech watch.**

Chris founded the StandbyU Foundation to harness the power of technology to protect vulnerable families and assure them that their calls for help will be heard and will illicit an urgent response.

In a world-leading approach, Chris programs individual safety plans into a \$1000 safety watch.

If a woman or child at risk activates the watch, it starts transmitting audio and their location so that family and friends included in the safety plan can take action, says Chris.

"Our charity is founded on the belief that the most vulnerable among us need protection and should never pay a cent for their safety."

Chris says he has been overwhelmed by calls and emails from social workers requesting the technology for their clients.

He says 75 per cent of women feel safer with the watch and many report being able to leave their home without feeling unsafe.

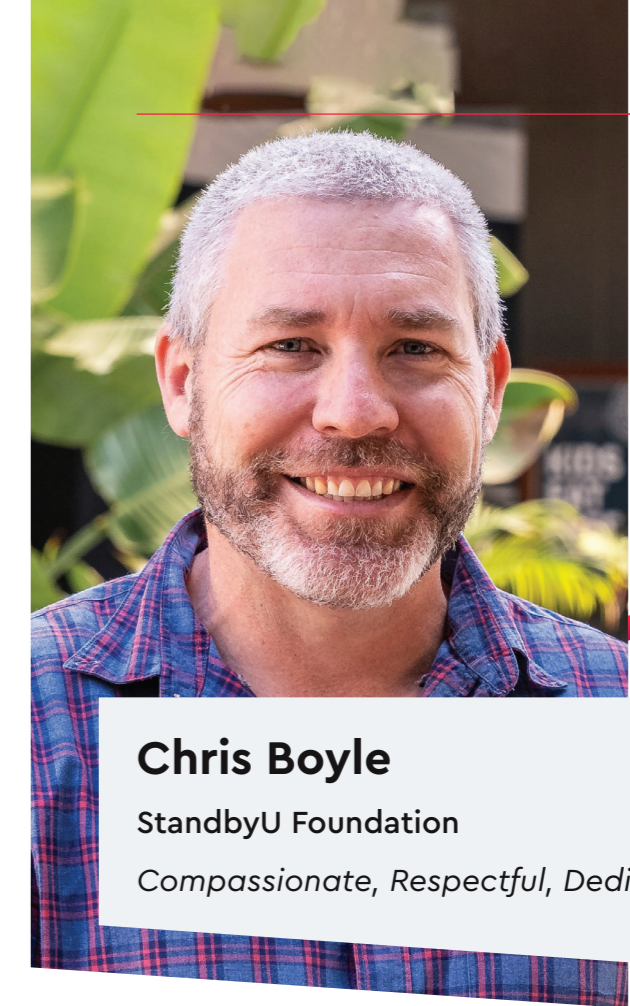
"The current systems are not addressing the scourge of domestic violence," Chris says.

"We harness the power of families, friends and communities with technology to keep children, youth and adults safe from child abuse and domestic and family violence."

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.

StandbyU Foundation will use its grant to provide 10 watches to vulnerable women and children in the Garden City area.

*Chris's nominator says: "Through his innovation Chris is improving the way we protect women and children affected by domestic and family violence."*



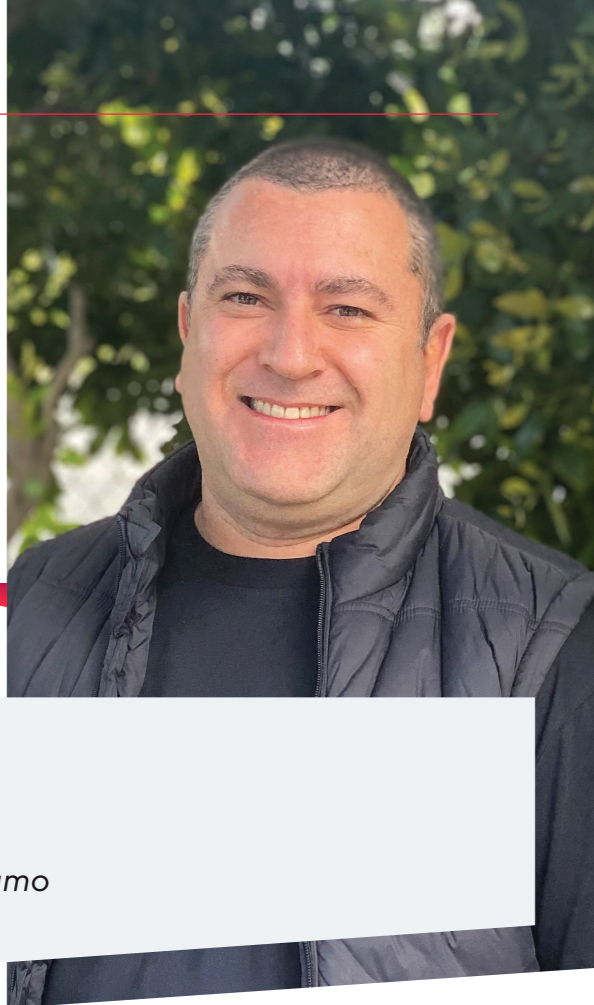
**Chris Boyle**

StandbyU Foundation

*Compassionate, Respectful, Dedicated*

## Harnessing technology to protect families

**"Our charity is founded on the belief that the most vulnerable among us need protection and should never pay a cent for their safety."**



## Scott Allen

Hillsong CityCare

*Caring, Loving, Dynamo*

## Passion for helping others

**"We hope to improve their self-esteem and help them overcome barriers, to fulfil their potential and make positive life choices."**

**Scott Allen's passion for community work was ignited from the help and support he received from mentors who helped him overcome challenges of substance abuse during his teenage years.**

"I felt called to live a life in the service of others," he says.

Scott is the State Manager of Hillsong CityCare in Queensland and the Northern Territory and in his role he has been able to pilot and launch a wide number of programs and services to help vulnerable groups in our community.

Scott is admired for his leadership skills, drive and compassion to help people. One of his first tasks upon taking on this role was to assist with the mobilisation of a volunteer army of 1000 people to help clean up and rebuild after the 2011 floods.

Scott and team have helped 105 women with transitional housing after fleeing domestic violence, collected tens of thousands of items for a Christmas drive and provided food assistance to vulnerable families.

He is proud of the Safe Space program, which gives at-risk youth somewhere safe and fun to hang out.

"We hope to improve their self-esteem and help them overcome barriers, to fulfil their potential and make positive life choices," Scott says.

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Hillsong CityCare will use its grant towards its Youth Safe Spaces program, which aims to connect vulnerable young people to positive adult role models and create a place where they can feel physically and emotionally safe such as after school sports and recreational activities, homework clubs and food programs.

*Scott's nominator says: "Scott is a caring, loving dynamo who has changed the lives of many. His leadership has paved the way to a better life for those overwhelmed by life's circumstances."*

**Betty Taylor has devoted 30 years to preventing domestic and family violence, playing a pivotal role in raising awareness and campaigning for better laws.**

As the volunteer CEO of the Red Rose Foundation, Betty raises awareness by holding a Red Rose Rally every time a Queensland woman or child loses their life to domestic violence.

Betty offers women who have fled abuse emotional and financial assistance and supports them through gruelling court cases.

She came up with the idea of building awareness by painting park benches red and attaching a Red Rose plaque calling for an end to domestic violence. There are now about 40 such benches around Queensland sparking conversations and showing women where they can get help.

"I do this work with passion and commitment that domestic violence must stop. We can do this," Betty says.

She is particularly proud of her ground-breaking work supporting women who have been nearly strangled by their abusers, leaving many with lifelong physical injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Betty says non-fatal strangulation is the highest red flag for future domestic violence-related murder, raising the risk of death eight-fold

"This is the only specific service for these women in Australia," she says.

Betty has recently received a Queensland Great Award from the Premier for her work in this field.

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Red Rose Foundation will use its grant to fit out its Australia-first strangulation trauma centre in Brisbane.

*Betty's nominator says: "Betty works tirelessly to support women and children who have been impacted by domestic violence. She is a role model for everyone who works in the community sector."*

## Betty Taylor

Red Rose Foundation

*Tenacious, Dedicated, Resilient*

## Working to end domestic violence

**"I do this work with passion and commitment that domestic violence must stop. We can do this."**



## Your 2020 Finalists

### Tamsyn Rosenberg

#### Alive Project Ltd

Tamsyn Rosenberg believes everyone has the right to thrive and has created the Alive Project to help young people at risk of suicide live with purpose and to create a life they are excited to live.

Building on her 15 years of experience with the Get Real youth organisation, Tamsyn has been delivering the Alive suicide prevention program via schools, sports clubs and other organisations for five years.

"I work with families and young people developing and delivering innovative and transformational programs in mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention," says Tamsyn.

If you need support, please phone:  
Lifeline: 13 11 14

### Julia McKenna

#### Friends With Dignity Australia

Like many people, Julia McKenna's life was dominated by career and family, until her cousin lost her life to domestic violence.

At that point, she knew she had to focus on protecting other women, men and children from domestic violence.

Together with two other advocates, she founded Friends With Dignity, a self-funded charity that transforms houses into sanctuaries where they can start a safe new life.

So far, the charity has helped more than 3000 people, unconditionally and for free.

"No other man, woman or child should ever have to face what my cousin did," Julia says.

### Cindy Barden

#### Lil Bug Love

Cindy Barden is working hard to ensure no other children go through the trauma her daughter faced when they fled domestic violence.

Cindy needed to make statement after statement to police and was devastated that her daughter had to hear what she had to say.

She founded Lil Bug Love and has distributed 937 comfort kits in police stations across Logan.

"Over 900 children have not had to feel as distressed or traumatised as my daughter did," she says.

## Recognising all of our 2020 nominees

### Donny Fraser

Australian Skateboarding Federation

### Amelia Ayris

Bravehearts

### Thane Leofa

1 On 1 – "King Of The Court"

### Dimitrios Bellos

Queensland Police Service

### Kirron Byrne

St James College

### Malakai Tava

Spinal Home Help Incorporated

### Scott Allen

Hillsong CityCare

### Brydi Saul

Icaniwill

### Chris Boyle

StandbyU Foundation

### Tamsyn Rosenberg

Alive Project Ltd

### Betty Taylor

Red Rose Foundation

### Nick Win Law

Hillsong

### Narelle Wyvill-Anstey

Lions Club Macgregor Inc

### Kay Waters

Fair Go Australia Foundation

### Cindy Barden

Lil Bug Love

### Julia McKenna

Friends with Dignity Australia

### Samuel Glancy

Calvary Christian College

### Joanne Ellias

Here On Purpose

### Brenda Gooding

Western Districts Netball Association

### Laury Bray

DanDaLion Friends

### Carmen Litton

Raise Foundation

### Tee Taylor

Sisterhood Empowerment-Loganholme

### Robyn Hilton

Queensland Brain Institute, University Of Queensland

### Robert John Pearman

Lions Club Of Toowoomba West

### Danielle Pritchard

Little Village Cafe And Play Centre

### Natalie Merino

Children's Tumour Foundation

### Yusuf Khatree

Muslim Charitable Foundation

### Dee Bloor

Jindalee Districts Australian Football & Netball Club

### Kelly Loughrey

Radio Lollipop (Australia) Logan

### Susan Howie

Share Shed Inc

### Nicholas Win Law

Hillsong CityCare

### Corina Bradley

Dragons Abreast Australia

### Megan Vevers

Sunnybank Community Preschool & Kindergarten Assoc. Inc

### Donna Ryan

Youth Insearch Foundation

### Alisha McLuckie

The Smith Family

### Linda Smith

The Sunlight Centre

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

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**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  
Kidslines: 0800 54 37 54  
Depression Helpline: 0800 111 757  
Samaritans: 0800 726 666  
Family Violence Information Line: 0800 456 450

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