

A vibrant red ribbon graphic that flows across the frame from the top left to the bottom right. The ribbon is three-dimensional, with shadows and highlights that give it a sense of depth and movement. In the center of the ribbon, the text "Westfield Local Heroes 2021" is printed in white. "Westfield" is in a serif font, "Local Heroes" is in a large, elegant script font, and "2021" is in a clean, sans-serif font. The ribbon's path is dynamic, with several loops and turns, creating a sense of celebration and energy.

Westfield

Local Heroes

2021

Westfield Local Heroes is a community recognition and awards program, designed to shine the spotlight on those people across Australia and New Zealand who make a positive impact to their local community and environment.

Individuals are nominated by their local communities, with the outcome of a public vote determining the three successful 2021 nominees for every Westfield centre.

Westfield Local Heroes

Now in its fourth year, we have awarded \$4.88 million to 489 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 2021 nominees for being recognised by their communities and thank them for the important contribution they all make.



Westfield

Booragoon

WA

Award-winning children's author Josh Langley spreads a message of hope and self-acceptance to young people living with the uncertainty of a neurofibromatosis (NF) diagnosis.

For three years, he has lent his star status to the Children's Tumour Foundation, which supports children with the genetic condition that causes tumours in the nervous system and a risk of problems with vision, hearing, behaviour, balance and the heart.

Josh initially started working with the foundation to support a friend's daughter who was diagnosed with NF.

Anxiety and depression are common among children with NF, which is something close to Josh's heart. His experience with mental illness is the basis for his popular, Being You is Enough book series for kids.

Josh is an ambassador of the charity's annual Undie Run. And he has live-streamed book

readings, recorded interviews with NF Heroes and participated in the foundation's Zoom support group for teens and young adults.

He is thrilled to be nominated a Westfield Local Hero. "It inspires me to take my messages of self-acceptance and mental wellbeing for kids much further afield so that all kids around Australia don't have to suffer anxiety and depression like I did."

Josh's nominator says: "Josh is a Westfield Local Hero because he spreads compassion and kindness wherever he goes. He works to create a better world for all of us by providing tools to help people cope with and understand their own (often difficult) emotions and empower them to acknowledge their self-worth."



Spreading the word about self-worth

Josh Langley

Children's Tumour Foundation

Inspiring, Innovative, Kind

"It inspires me to take my messages of self-acceptance and mental wellbeing for kids much further afield so that all kids around Australia don't have to suffer anxiety and depression like I did."



**Waste not,
want not**

Joanilia (Joan) Chaperon

SecondBite WA

Positive, Giving, Energetic

"I have a desire to help needy families and at the same time to give back to society for what was given to my family and me by this country when I migrated to Perth from overseas."

At 6am every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, you will find Joanilia Chaperon sorting through rescued food to provide to thousands of West Australians in need.

Big-hearted Joanilia has been an enthusiastic volunteer for SecondBite WA since she heard about the charity on the radio around the time of her retirement.

She has become a stalwart of the operation and is known for the immaculate presentation of her hampers.

With her sunny smile and can-do attitude, Joanilia is also a kind mentor for new and less experienced volunteers.

Joanilia jokes that part of the payback is the free workout she gets from the manual labour required to get the job done.

Her work ensures perfectly good fresh food is diverted from landfill to people who might otherwise go hungry.

As a passionate advocate for the charity, Joanilia attends fundraisers and encourages other seniors to volunteer.

"I have a desire to help needy families and at the same time to give back to society for what was given to my family and me by this country when I migrated to Perth from overseas," says Joanilia.

She is honoured to be nominated a Westfield Local Hero. "It shows appreciation for the work we are doing and gives me a sense of pride in and belonging to the community."

Joan's nominator says: "Joan is a Westfield Local Hero because she puts healthy nutritious food in the bellies of people experiencing food insecurity. No matter their circumstances, Joan and the rest of the team at SecondBite are there to help."

Karen O'Connor is giving dozens of local people who can no longer cycle an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and the feeling of the wind in their hair on electric tricycles ridden by volunteers.

Karen led the introduction of Cycling Without Age, to Perth several years ago after seeing a social media video about a volunteer taking nursing home residents for rides in Scotland.

"I must have watched that over a hundred times, inspiring me to want to create the same opportunities for others in my local community," Karen says.

She is so passionate that she gave up work for over a year to establish Cycling Without Age in WA.

The rides give people an opportunity to be visible, included and joyful. Today there are seven chapters in the state and several more in other states.

The free program builds socially inclusive communities, promotes

intergenerational communication and improves physical and mental health.

"Every volunteer cyclist has a special story to tell of a ride with someone that has deeply touched them," says Karen.

Karen says she feels humbled to be nominated as a Westfield Local Hero. "We don't do this for recognition. However, it did make me feel proud to reflect on where we have come from establishing this program to where we are today."

Karen's nominator says: "Karen is a Westfield Local Hero because her contribution brings so much joy to those who are often so isolated."



Biking through barriers

Karen O'Connor

Cycling Without Age Australia

Passionate, Generous, Committed

"Every volunteer cyclist has a special story to tell of a ride with someone that has deeply touched them."

Your 2021 Finalists



Simone Blom

Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club

Simone Blom is giving local children with disabilities the chance to learn crucial beach skills by introducing Starfish Nippers to the Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club. The program provides one-to-one support to enable children to participate in beach and water activities like flag races, swimming and board paddling in a way that is appropriate to their age and abilities.



Curtis Novacsek

Edmund Rice Camps for Kids WA

Curtis Novacsek is a patient and kind mentor at Edmund Rice Camps for Kids, where he encourages hundreds of at-risk children to be themselves and just be kids away from their everyday stressors. While most volunteer mentors complete 30 camps, Curtis has completed 60 and is up for more. The most rewarding part for Curtis is the opportunity to build a relationship with the children and see them open up, get involved and grow. Curtis was a Westfield Local Hero finalist in 2020 and appreciates being nominated for a second time. "Honestly, I am tickled pink," he says.



Dr Kaine Grigg

MyLocalMind Inc.

Clinical psychologist Dr Kaine Grigg provides free evidence-based mental health support to more than 1,000 people in Fremantle and surrounds. His non-profit, MyLocalMind Inc, offers 10 youth and adult group sessions a week. These include mindfulness, yoga, group fitness and more traditional talk-based group therapy. There are also more than 1,500 members on his online forum.

Recognising all of our 2021 nominees

Catherine Kolomyjec
Soul Gestures

Joel Herbert
Rebound WA

Alexander George O'Neil
FreshStart Recovery

Belinda Hawes
**Broken Crayons Still Colour
Foundation**

Jan Miles
Leeming Netball Club

Jess Gray
Dismantle

Laura Sutherland
Native Arc

Will Goyder
JDRF Australia

Jack O'Keeffe
**Western Electric Sporting
Association**

Derek Edmondson
Kardinya Junior Cricket Club

Lynley Biancuzzo
Tingara Netball Club

Jane Armstrong
HomelessnesWeCarePerth

Robert Willis
**Bull Creek Leeming Community
Men's Shed Inc.**

Cristina Coehlo
Bateman Winthrop Scout Group

Izabela Folau
Red Frogs WA

Georgia Ongarezos
Lifeline WA

Heather Ann Timms
**Fremantle CBC Integrated
Football Team**

John Dunne
Beacon Progress Association

Ben Murphy
Phoenix Maintanance

Dr Pri Adilbert
Homeless feed

Duncan Hardy
DT38 Australia

Suzanne Wetherall
**Ready to Work Inc
T/A Dress for Success Perth**

Mrs Hazel Gough
Bateman Winthrop Scout Group

Rebecca Prince-Ruiz
Plastic Free Foundation Limited

Curtis Novacsek
Edmund Rice Camps for Kids WA

Simon Kane
The Kids' Cancer Project

Dr Kaine Grigg
MyLocalMind Inc.

Alison Moore
Bateman Primary School

Simone Blom
Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club

John De'Laney
**Pregnancy and Infant Loss
Australia**

Karen O'Connor
Cycling Without Age Australia

Josh Langley
Children's Tumour Foundation

Joanilia (Joan) Chaperon
SecondBite WA

**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

The background features a large, abstract graphic composed of overlapping, rounded shapes in various shades of red and white. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The colors range from a bright, vibrant red to a deep, dark red, with white areas that appear to be cutouts or highlights within the composition.

westfield.com.au/local-heroes

westfield.co.nz/local-heroes

Westfield

Local Heroes

2021

SCENTRE GROUP